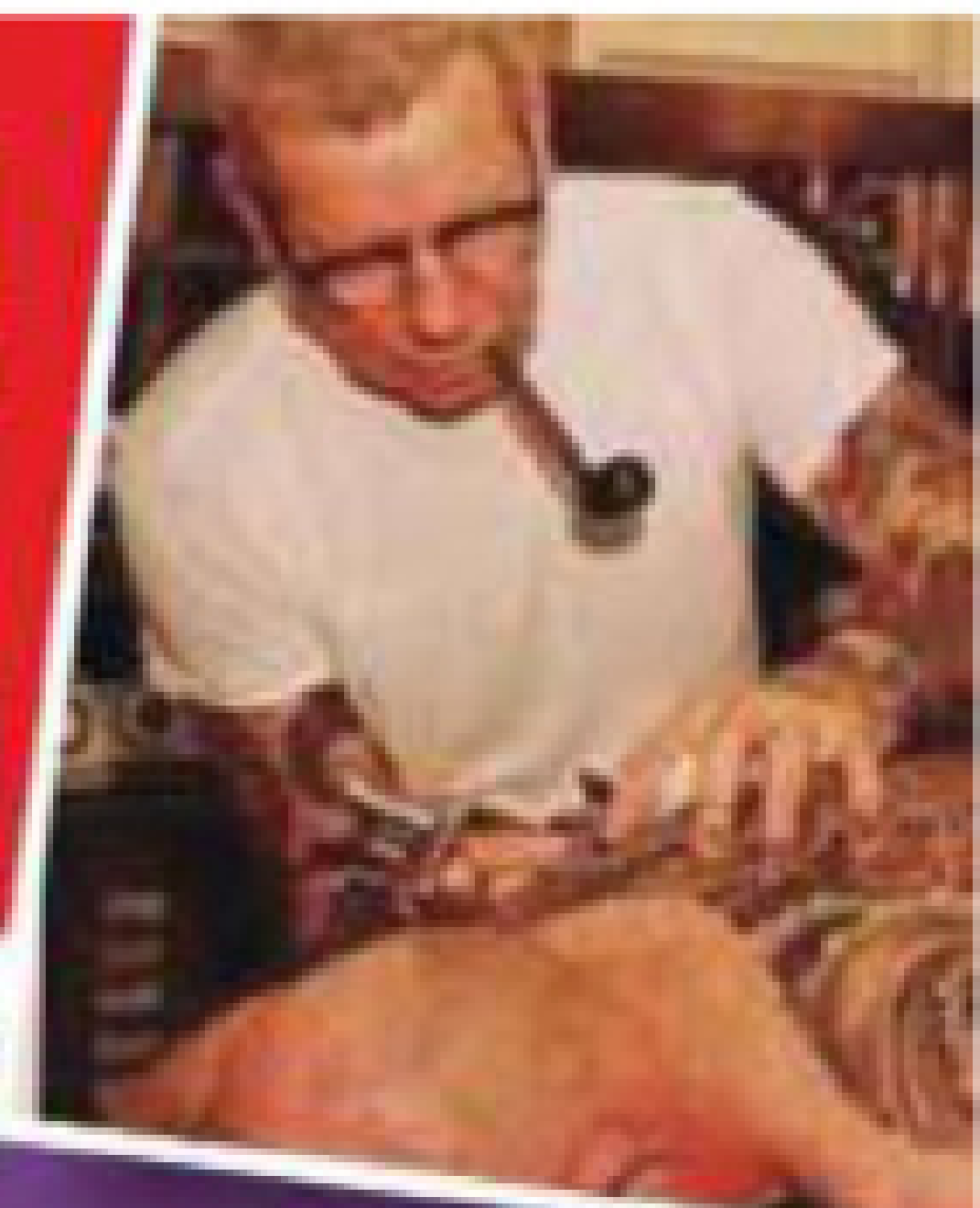




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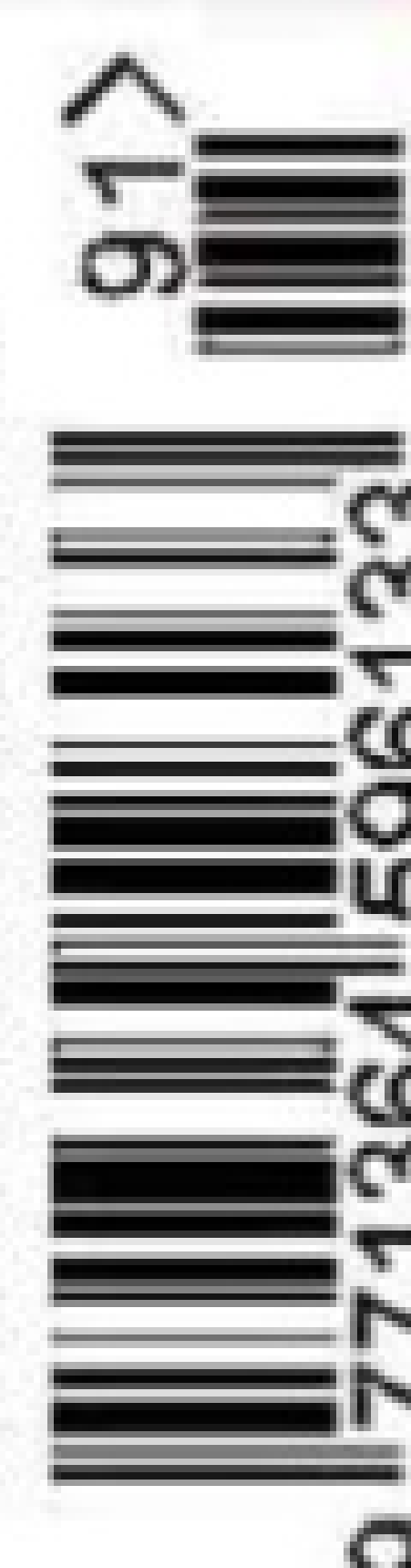


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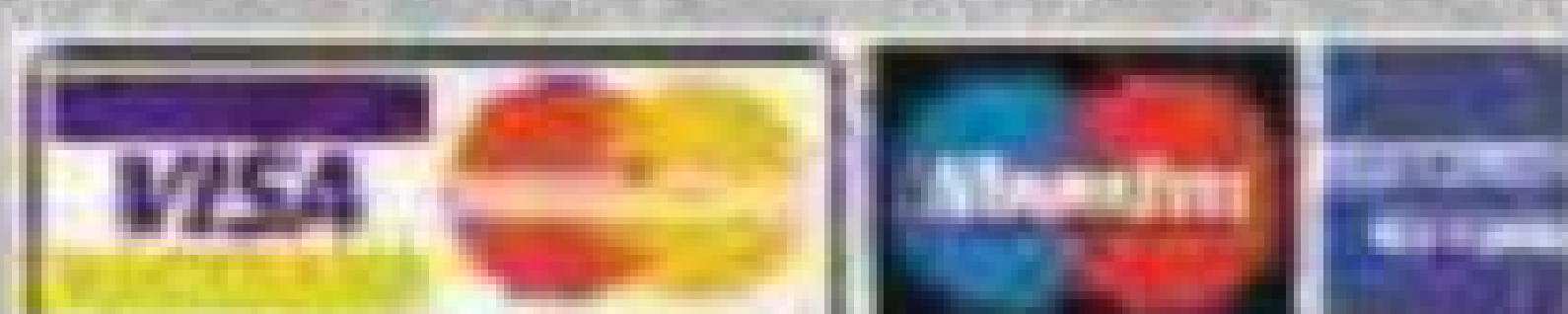


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Editor's letter

BIG, BOUNCY AND BEAUTIFUL!

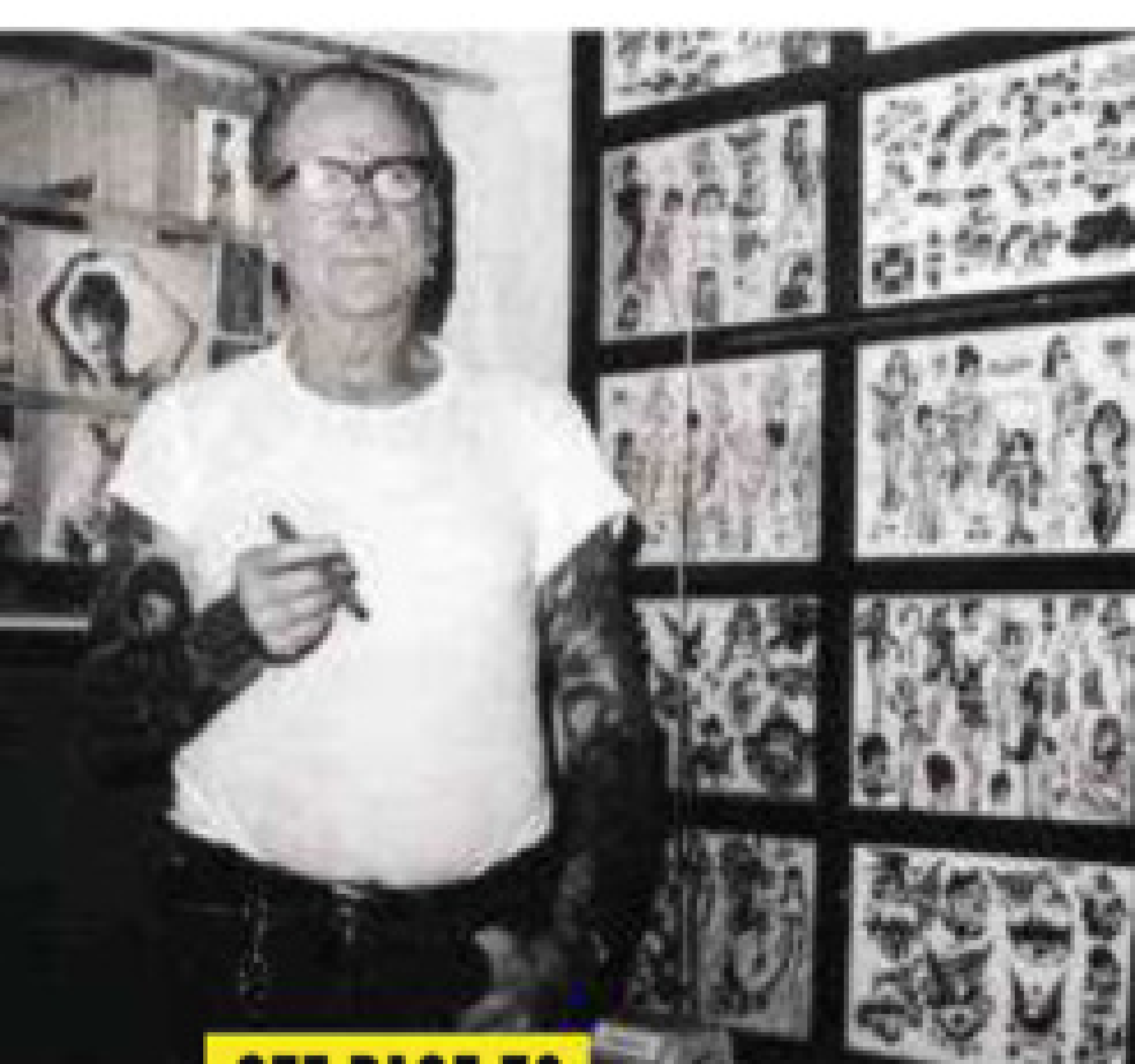
Welcome once again to *Bizarre*... the Greatest Magazine On Earth! And if you're the sort of person who likes to supersize, you've come to the right place.

As a small number of *Bizarre* haters are always whingeing on our Facebook page that we don't feature enough "real women" in the mag, and that we're somehow obsessed with "stick-thin models", we decided it was about time that we caught-up with one of *Bizarre*'s best friends; the world's hottest BBW star, **APRIL FLORES** (p62).

Although we've always tried to feature different looks and body shapes in the magazine, many people forget that we first featured April in September 2008, and again in August 2009. And as we've also featured disabled models, girls made-up to look like feasting vampires, and heavily-inked hotties who most mainstream magazines wouldn't touch with a bargepole, we're confident that *Bizarre* is doing more than any other mag to showcase different bodies. Don't agree with us? Then head over to

our Facebook page and join the debate (eyes right for details on how to find us).

To complement our interview with April, *Bizarre*'s ace web editor, Stephen Daultrey, also worked around the clock this month to win an audience with the biggest fetish stars on the planet. Take a trip to p68 and you'll meet the **SUPER-SIZED BIG BEAUTIFUL WOMEN** who weight in at over 500lb, and are as much in love with their bodies as the men who pay to be crushed by their bellies!



SEE PAGE 56

Elsewhere this issue we've got a massive feature on tattoo legend **SAILOR JERRY** (p56) that tells you the story of the inking icon, a crazy report all about **CHINESE FIGHTING CRICKETS** (p87), and a huge photograph of a **SPIDER'S VAGINA** (p74). My, how we spoil you!

Stay sick!
Dr Blackthorn



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HOW CAN I GET IN BIZARRE?

MODELS

If you're an alt.model looking for a break, sign up to *Bizarre*'s **ULTRA VIXENS**. It's the easiest way to have your photos featured in *Bizarre*, and you'll be in with a chance of appearing on the cover – you need to be a member so that we can see your pics! Check out Ultra Vixens on p40, and sign up online at UltraVixens.net



READERS, ARTISTS, PHOTOGRAPHERS AND EVERYONE ELSE...

If you want to appear in *Bizarre*, get in touch with the team – including Auntie Den, who runs the YourBizarre section (see p29) – using the following methods:

POST Send your mail to *Bizarre*, Blackthorn Communications, PO Box 59844, London SW14 9BH

EMAIL Email Bizarre@blackthorncommunications.com or contact Auntie Den directly at

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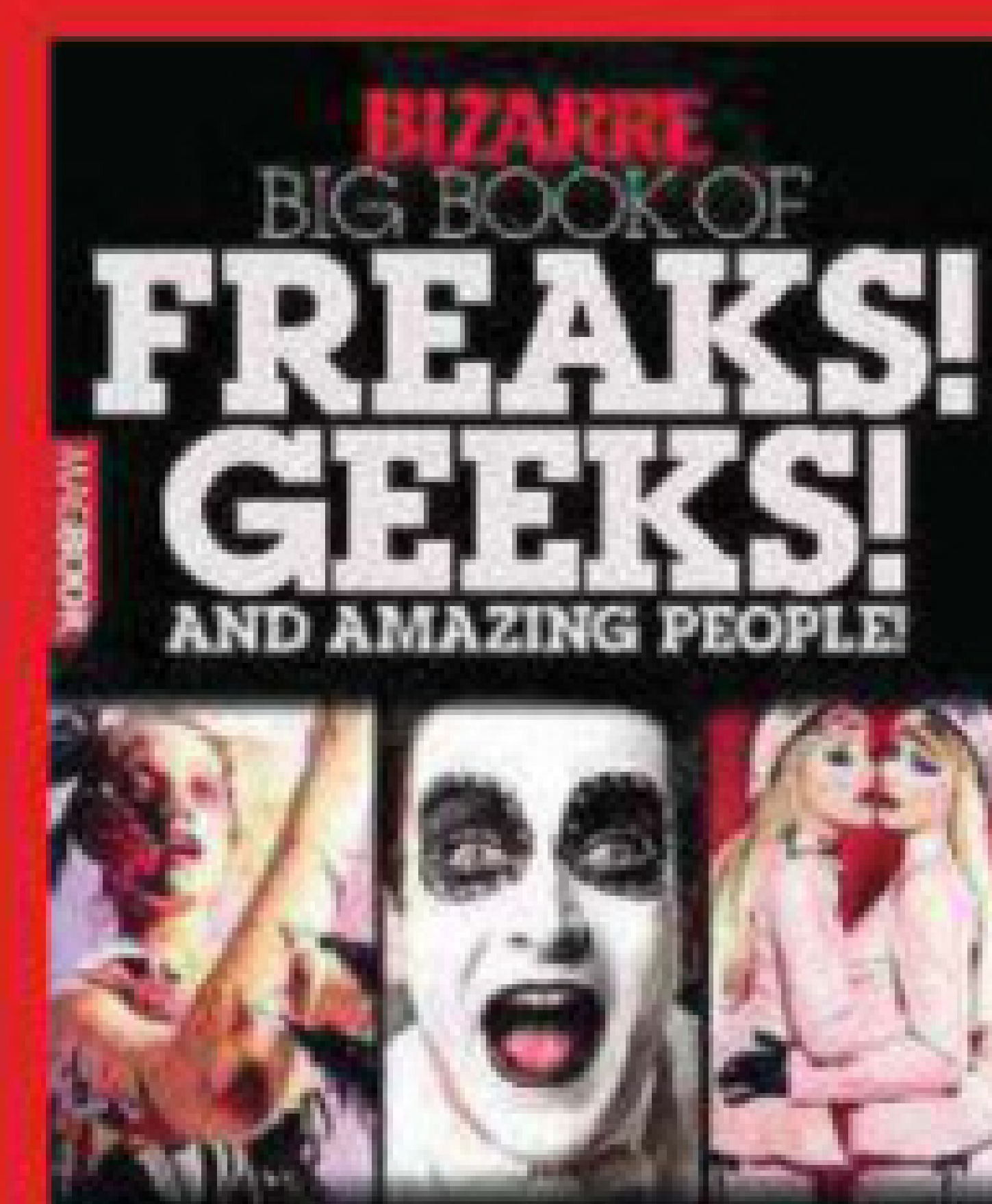


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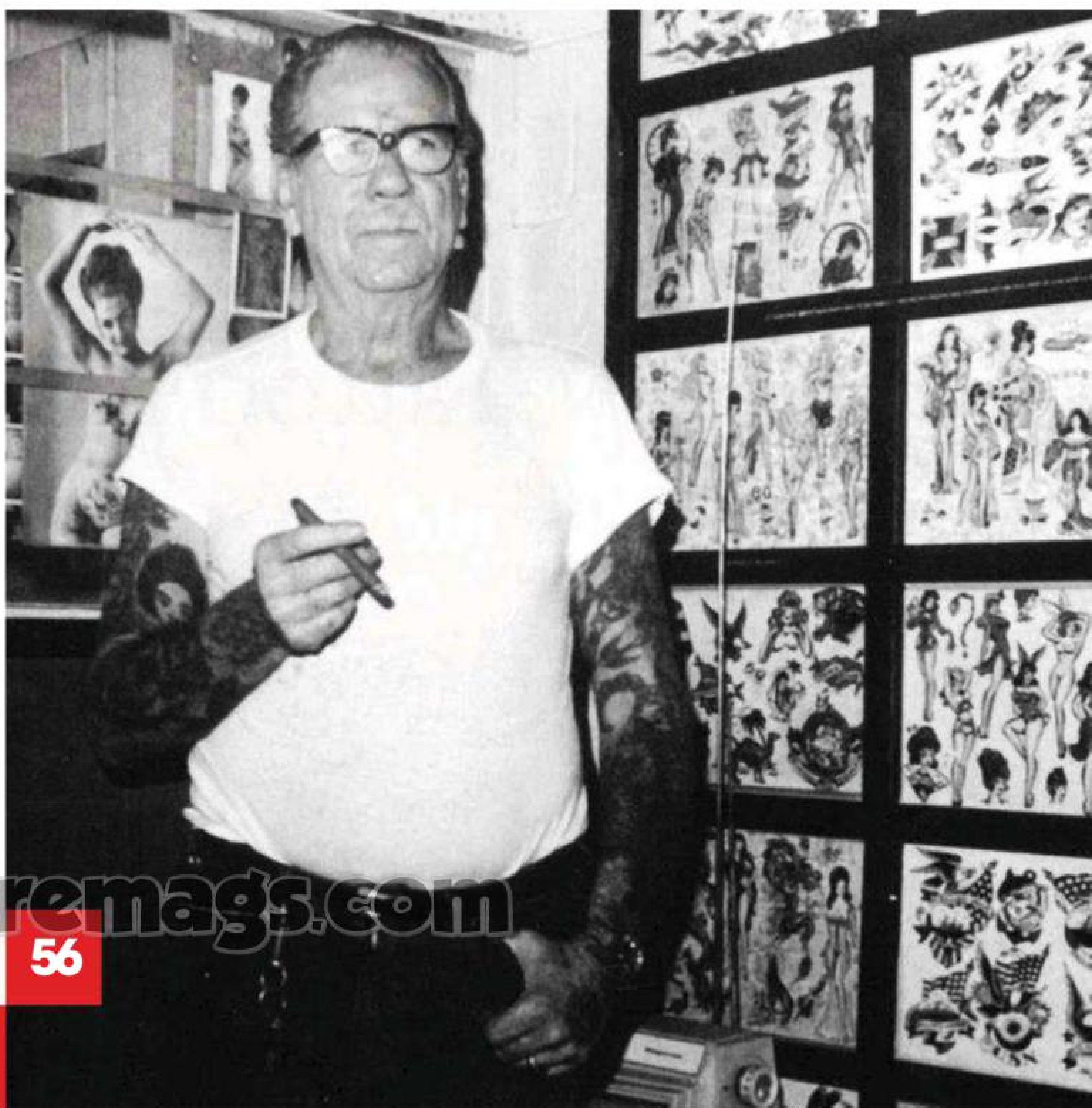
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EDITED BY TOM BROADBENT

PHOTO ASSAULT

THE WORLD'S MOST
EXTREME
CLOSE-UPS!

SORE THROAT

CHINA When Wang Qi from Chongqing in southwest China was a lad, he became obsessed with kung fu movies and vowed to become a master of Qigong; a mixture of physical and mental training exercises that allow practitioners to perform extraordinary feats, such as breaking concrete blocks with their bare hands. Now in his second year at the wonderfully named Chongqing Normal University, Wang is so skilled in Qigong that he can perform superhuman feats such as two-finger push-ups and, as this incredible photo proves, place the pointed end of a big stick against his throat, and break it in two using only his upper-body strength and mental ability to block out pain. Nice one, Wang. The next time we can't get the lid off the ketchup bottle, we'll give you a call.

PICTURE: CHINA FOTO PRESS/BAROCROFT MEDIA





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SLUM SALVAGE

PHILIPPINES When a fire swept through this coastal slum in May, more than 1,000 ramshackle homes were destroyed and over 10,000 people were left homeless. Residents of Isla Puting Bato in Tondo – a district of the Filipino capital Manila – are desperately poor, with most earning just over £1 a day, so many were forced to throw themselves into the filthy waters of Manila Bay to try to salvage any valuables they could find in their wrecked homes. The Filipino government has begun rehousing families in other parts of the country, but many people are reluctant to leave Manila as they'd also be giving up jobs and their only source of income. Officials are currently investigating how the blaze began.

PICTURE: KEYSTONE/ISA-ZUMA/REX FEATURES





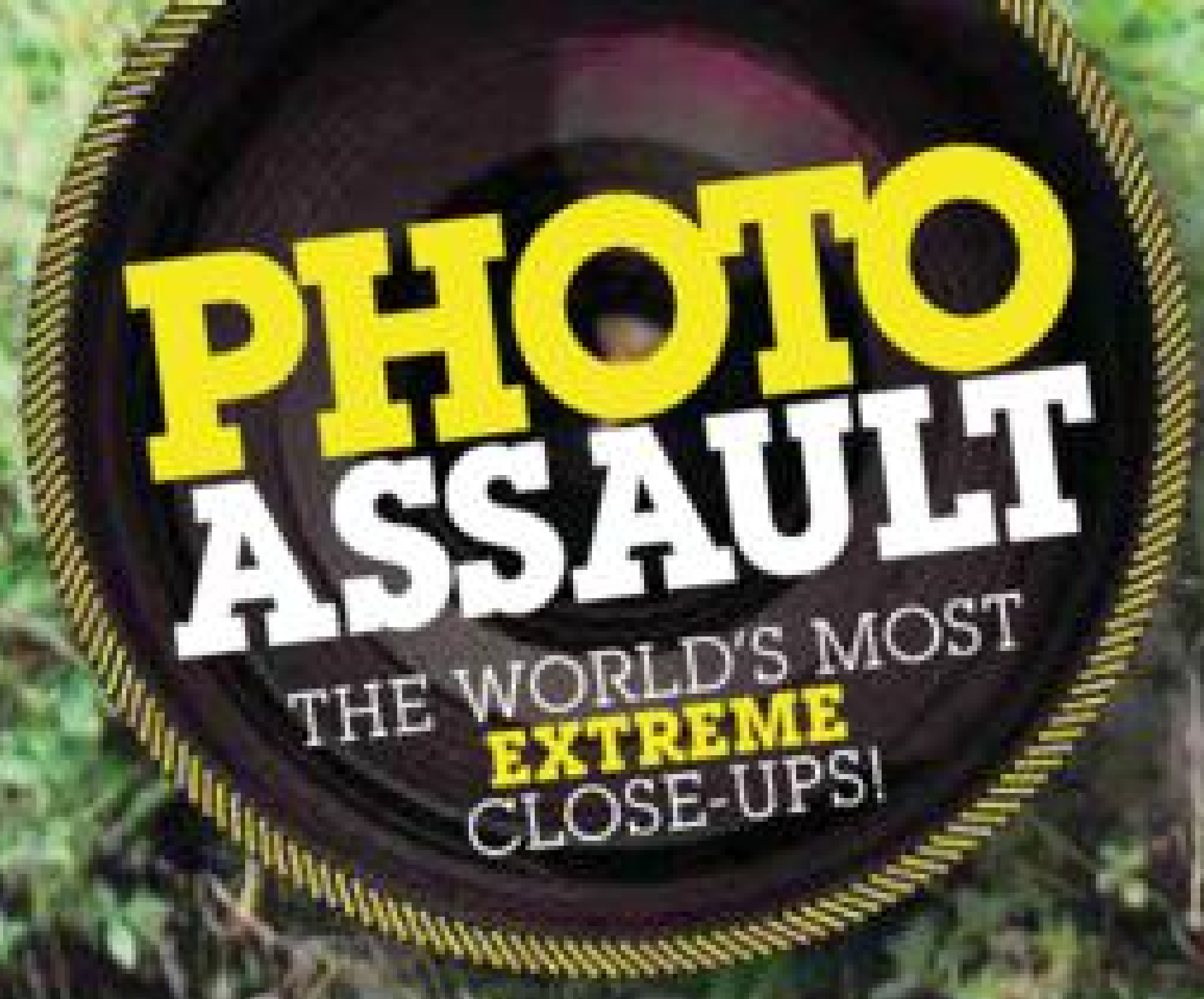
TOPSY-TURVY HOUSE

AUSTRIA No, this isn't a scene from *The Wizard Of Oz* – it's a new tourist attraction designed by Polish architects Irek Glowacki and Marek Rozanski, in the town of Terfens. Inside, the upside-down building is fully furnished, with household items hanging above visitors' heads as they walk on the ceiling and dodge lighting fixtures sprouting from the ground. It took Glowacki and Rozanski eight months to build the topsy-turvy house, which has already proved to be a hit with visitors to the small town in western Austria.

PICTURE: DOMINIC EBENICHLER/REUTERS







CHUNKY MONKEY

INDONESIA As *Bizarre*'s celebration of all things big kicks off on p62, we couldn't resist sharing this hysterical photo of a portly primate in Ragunan Zoo, Jakarta. Although the owners of the zoo claim this outsized orang-utan is fed on a healthy diet of fruit and milk, it appears this 'old man of the forest' has a sweet tooth, and loves to gobble the confections and scraps of junk food visitors throw into his enclosure. And as the swollen simian doesn't get much exercise in his small pen, and prefers to spend his days lounging in the sun rather than swinging in an old tyre, this hefty hominoid isn't going to shed his extra pounds anytime soon.

PICTURE: HENDY WIDIANTO/BARCROFT MEDIA





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MENTAL ORIENTAL!

Wild Japanese YouTube video will blow your tiny minds!

KINKY JAPANESE SCHOOLGIRLS WITH a penchant for patricide. A whip-cracking dominatrix with luscious lips like a bicycle inner tube. A pink foam octopus having a love affair with a monster whose head is covered in bulbous tumours. Murder, blood, leather, rubber, *yakuza*, aliens, zombies, sex slaves... and a pair of red-hot gothic lolitas who slaughter their enemies with a barrage of deadly donuts. Welcome to the whacked-out world of *Paint Your Teeth: The Movie!!*, a delirious, no-budget YouTube video that the *Bizarre* team has been obsessed with since we first clapped eyes on it last month.

Made by French-Canadian filmmaker, Alex Paillé, who relocated to Japan in 2006, and journalist and writer David Hoenigman, *Paint Your Teeth: The Movie!!* is a 20-minute homage to the Japanese club of the same name; an underground art event showcasing avant-garde bands, performers and dancers, which has been staged in Tokyo every couple of months for the past three years.

"*Paint Your Teeth: The Movie!!* is something David wanted to make for years," says Paillé. "He organises the Paint Your Teeth club nights – and when he saw some of my films such as the *Marichan Ganbare* series (which you can also see on YouTube),



Inside the octopus costume is cult Japanese film director, Takao Nakano, who made the brilliant *Big Tits Zombie*



Performer Rukia Isono, left, is a regular at Paint Your Teeth club nights

he asked me if I wanted to make a movie with him. The fast-paced action and craziness in *Paint Your Teeth: The Movie!!* was inspired by manga, and also by *Scott Pilgrim vs. The World*. But, of course, we had no budget!"

"Other movies that inspired us were *Tokyo Gore Police* and *Meatball Machine*," continues Hoenigman. "We were thinking, 'What would happen if these films collided with a John Waters or Russ Meyer film, or an old Twisted Sister video?' We banged out the concept over a couple of coffee sessions, and then we were off and running."

NO MONEY? NO PROBLEM!

Although *Paint Your Teeth: The Movie!!* has little in the way of plot – and feels more like a collection of outrageous ideas jumbled together than a traditional film – the meandering story follows the fortunes of two Japanese schoolgirls who are planning to go to Hoenigman's fabled club night. But when their overbearing father forbids them to leave the house, the cute twosome kill their old man with a samurai sword, then embark on a perilous journey across Tokyo where they're harassed by geeks, gangsters and



“One guy jerked off into a bottle!”

the masked Kiss Ranger, who can't resist slipping her co-stars the tongue.

"We shot the whole thing in around 12 hours, spread over three days," says Paillé. "The indoor scene at the beginning, which was shot in my apartment, took four hours, the outdoor daytime scenes were shot in five hours, and the night-time exteriors took around two hours."

"In the end, *Paint Your Teeth: The Movie!!* barely cost us a penny," Paillé continues. "Our only expenses were the train fares we gave some of the girls, and the cosplay schoolgirl uniforms. We got some funny looks when we were filming on the streets – especially when the S&M stepmother turned up – but we shot so fast that we didn't have time to draw much attention!"



Japanese alternative performer Tokyo Destinyland as the evil father



The costumes are cheesy, cheap and nasty!

JOIN THE CLUB

But while *Paint Your Teeth: The Movie!!* will leave your head spinning and your trousers tingling, it's nothing compared to the weird goings-on in the real club that triggered Paillé and Hoenigman's YouTube cheese-fest.

"At the Paint Your Teeth club night where we shot the last scene, there was a band playing who have a really long name, but are called Logos for short," says Paillé. "On stage, the Donut Loiltas from the film were melting two gallons of ice cream onto a girl's naked body using a hairdryer, and one of the members of Logos just stood in the front row and jerked off into a bottle. The girls had a clear view of him from the stage – and they say his girlfriend drank the spunk afterwards!"

To check out the insanity of *Paint Your Teeth: The Movie!!* for yourself, take a trip to YouTube and search for the film by name. And if, like us, you love manga, hot Japanese girls, and wild flights of fancy, you won't be able to resist this brash, garish, downright silly film that's low on budget but rich in imagination, madcap action and warm-hearted humour.

PAIN IN THE NECK!

Bizarre's favourite funny man breaks his neck crowd-surfing at Download... and doesn't even notice!

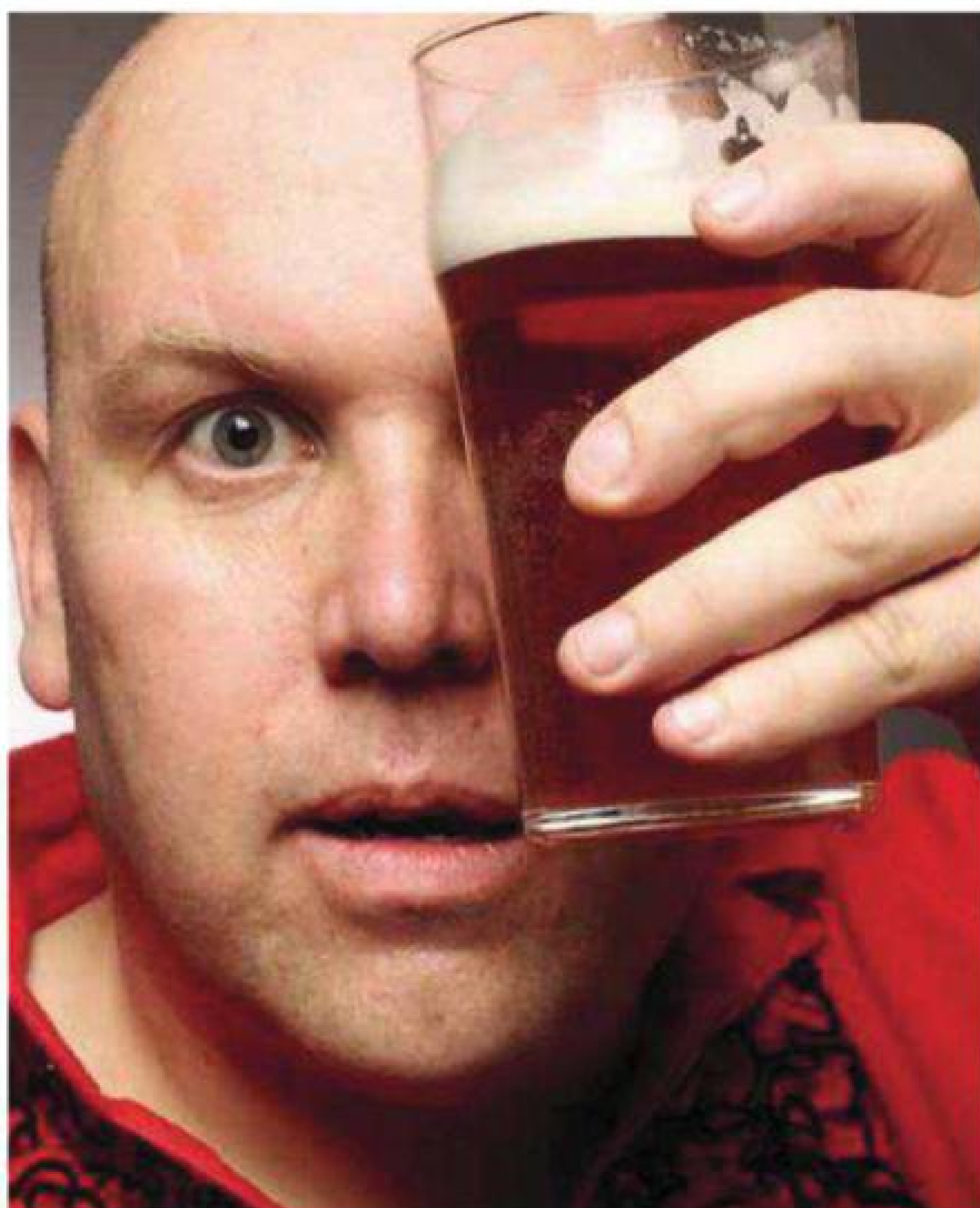
BOB SLAYER, THE FUNNY MAN

championed in *Bizarre 174* as one of our New Heroes Of Alternative Comedy, broke his neck at *Download Festival* while crowd-surfing in a wheelie bin. But it took two days before he realised the extent of his injuries!

At the end of the comedian's storming *Download* set – which took place on Thursday 9 June, before the main festival kicked-off – he squeezed into a wheelie bin, and manoeuvred himself off the stage to be passed above the heads of the gobsmacked crowd. But as the bin wound its way around the comedy tent, Slayer unceremoniously slid out and landed on his head.

"The bin kept on surfing and found its way back to the stage as planned, but I ended up in the mud and mega-winded," Slayer says. "The gig ended a little earlier than I'd planned, but after someone prescribed me Jack Daniel's I felt fine."

Although Slayer fractured his neck in the fall, it was two days before he realised what had happened. "The next morning I woke up in someone's wet tent,"



he says. "I was in a bunch of pain, but that's nothing out the ordinary for a festival. So I headed back London as I was booked to do some filming the next day, where I had to ride a tandem bike around Chelsea."

"During the shoot I had another accident when I hit a pedestrian and dislocated my thumb. The cameraman, who's a bit of a hero as he's previously shot with Bear Grylls, strapped my thumb up and we finished the shoot – then we had some fish and chips and went to A&E. While the doctors were X-raying my hand I told them about the wheelie bin incident – and when they checked my neck they discovered that I'd cracked a vertebrae!"

Fortunately, despite not seeking medical treatment immediately after his fall, Slayer's on the mend thanks to a fetching neck brace and some heavy-duty painkillers. But as he was banned earlier this year from the *Perth World Fringe Festival* in Australia for his "drunken antics", and chucked out of the *Adelaide Fringe* festival for being "an idiot", it probably won't be long before our favourite comic is packed off to A&E again for more emergency treatment.



SOLO IN SOHO!

Tiger Lillies' frontman announces debut solo shows

THE FOUNDING MEMBER AND

frontman of *Bizarre's* favourite Grammy-nominated punk-cabaret trio, The Tiger Lillies, has announced his first ever solo dates.

Martyn Jacques, who has the voice of an angel and a mind like a sewer – and wowed a crowd of revellers at the *Bizarre Ball* in 2010 – is playing a series of dates at London's Soho Theatre from 25 July-4 August.

In a strange twist of fate, we'll be featuring an exclusive interview with Jacques in the next issue of *Bizarre*, which goes on sale on 31 July. And as his scandalous songs touch on subjects as diverse as cross-dressing prostitute amputees, murderers who butcher children and rape nuns, and deviants who fuck flies, shag sheep and pork piglets, we're sure he'll have plenty of shocking stories to keep you sick puppies entertained.

Tickets are available from Sohotheatre.com

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STEAMPUNK ROCKS!

We love *Clockwork Watch*, and so will you

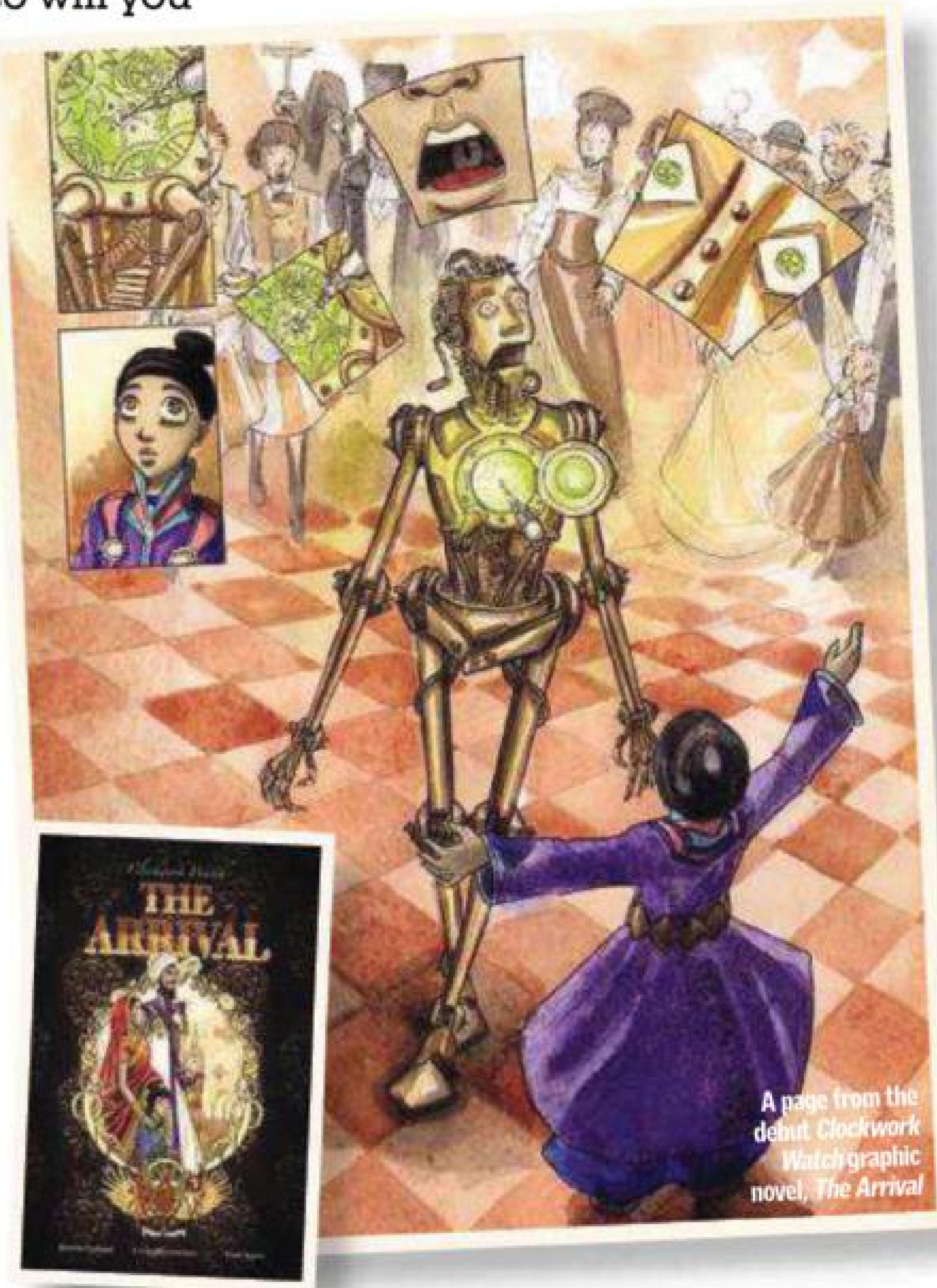
ALTHOUGH WE'RE FANS OF ALL THINGS

steampunk here at *Bizarre*, to date no-one has harnessed the huge potential of this greasy genre, or found a way to help a wider audience embrace it. But with *Clockwork Watch*, all that's about to change.

A transmedia property that promises to one day span books, films, comics, theatre and more, *Clockwork Watch* presents its growing audience with a fantasy world that they can shape and make their own, and use it to stage their own tales of elaborate Victoriana.

"*Clockwork Watch* is in the hands of the participants," says the creative team of Yomi Ayeni (writer and creator), Jennie Gyllblad (artist and designer) and Corey Brotherson (writer and editor). "We have a story we want to tell, but the universe where the action is set is yet to be created, and we're leaving that to the ingenuity of the audience."

"In our world – which is a time of unemployment and poverty, when people are experimenting and inventing to make their lives better, and giving rise to the devices associated with steampunk – Queen Victoria's government makes laws and sets the agenda, and the structure of our story



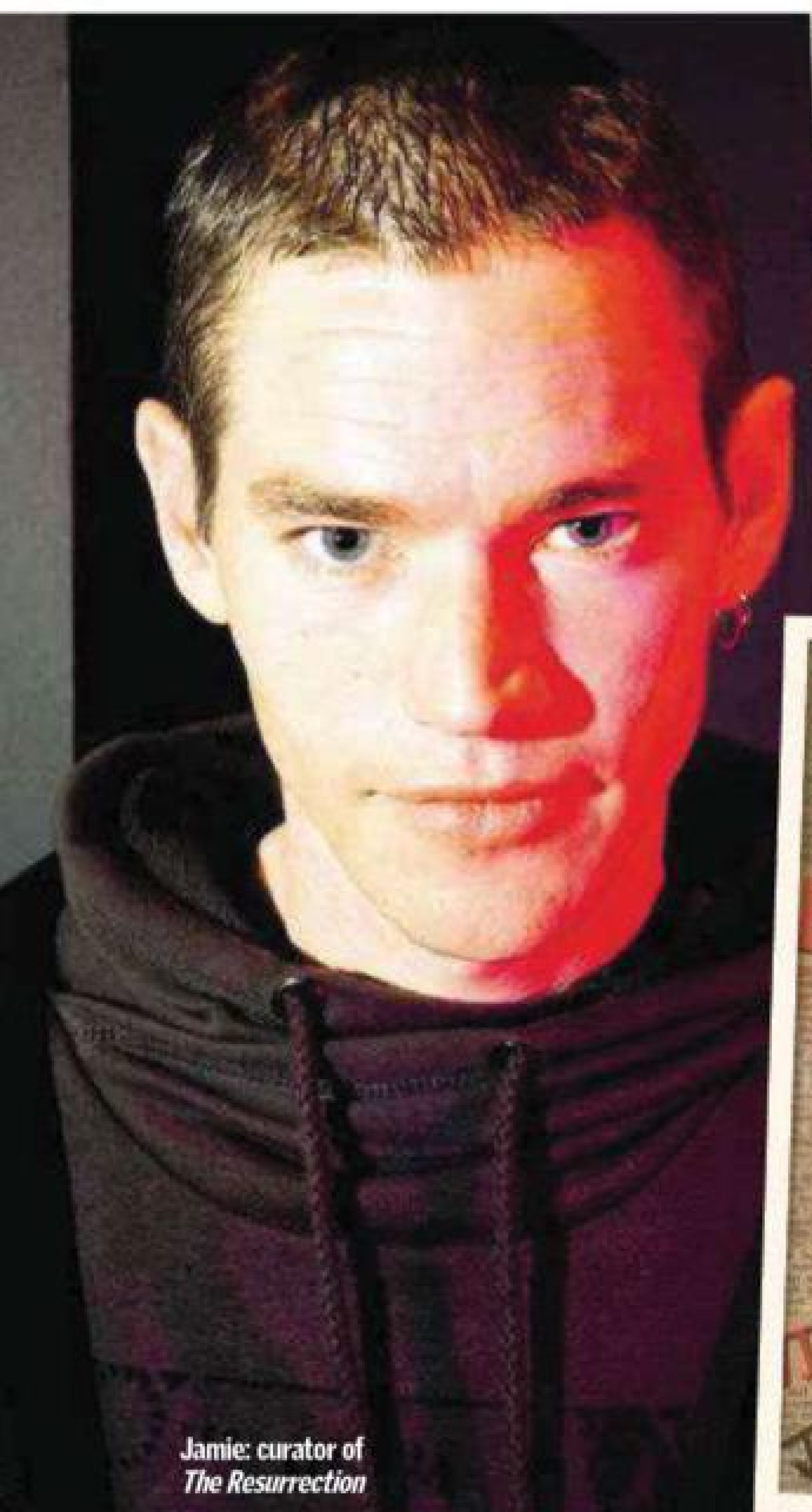
evolves from how people react to these developments," the CW team continues.

"Our online portal, *The London Gazette*, is where all the action takes place and the background story is told. It's used to signpost plots, as well as curate contributions from the audience. Participants can submit video, photos, stories or stage their own events, which may be referenced in the narrative or added to the *Clockwork Watch* canon. We've already got one user-generated trade union publication called *The Spanner* – who are threatening to call a strike over job insecurity – while members of the religious right have come out to say that science is 'playing God' and must be stopped."

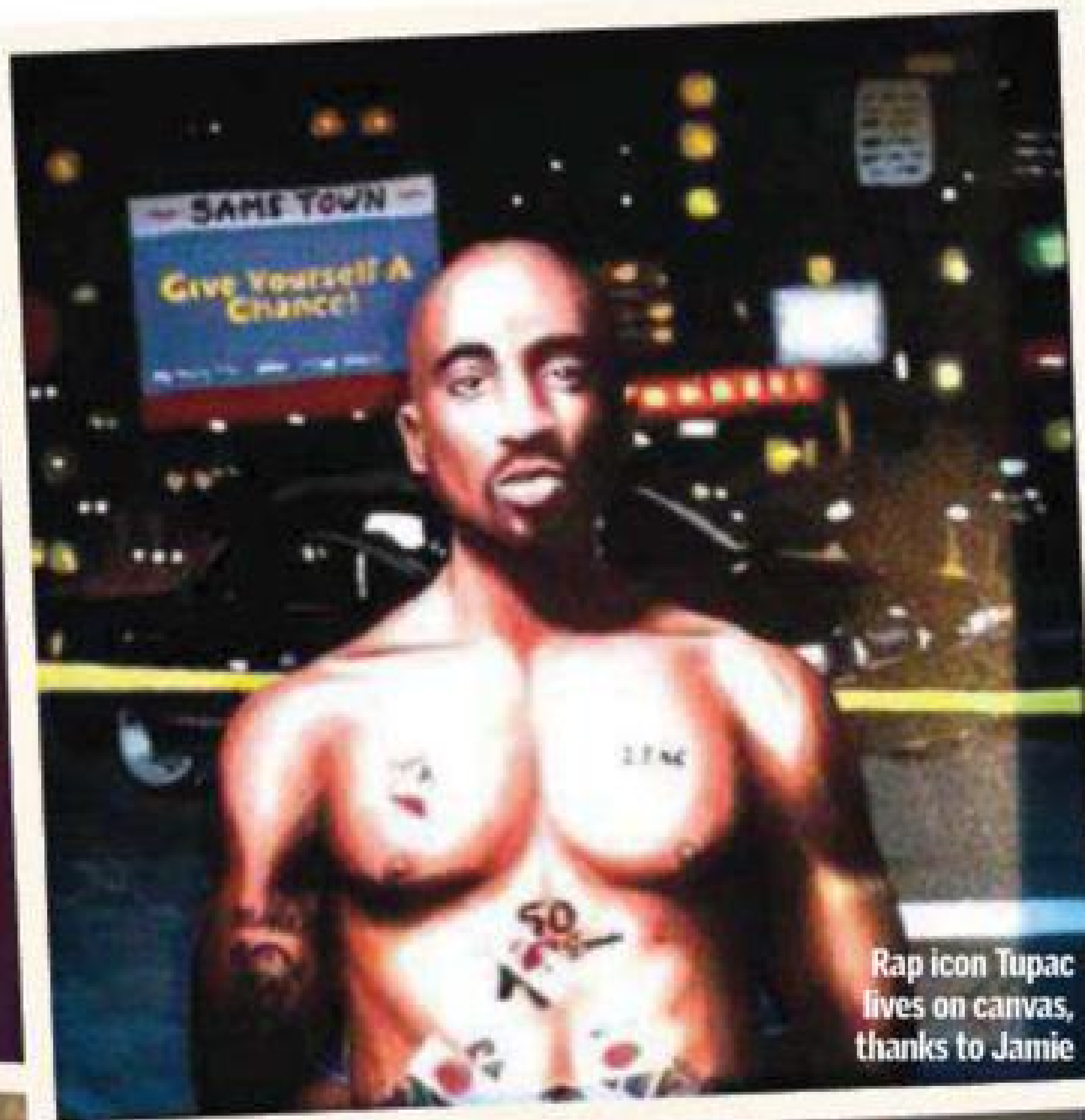
So far *Clockwork Watch* has manifested itself as the *London Gazette* online portal (details below), a live event called *Tomorrow's World... Today!* that was staged in London in May, and the first in a series of graphic novels, titled *The Arrival*. The *Clockwork Watch* team also plan to work with festivals and stage pop-up experiences to help develop story arcs – and as the project was funded by crowdsourcing and 70 per cent of the money came from outside the UK, *Clockwork Watch* has the potential to become a global force that unites steampunk fans across the world.

"Steampunk as a genre has vast appeal, but it's not mass market as yet," the CW team says. "We want to encourage people to create a world that explains steampunk to a larger audience, and allows people to share the experience in their own way."

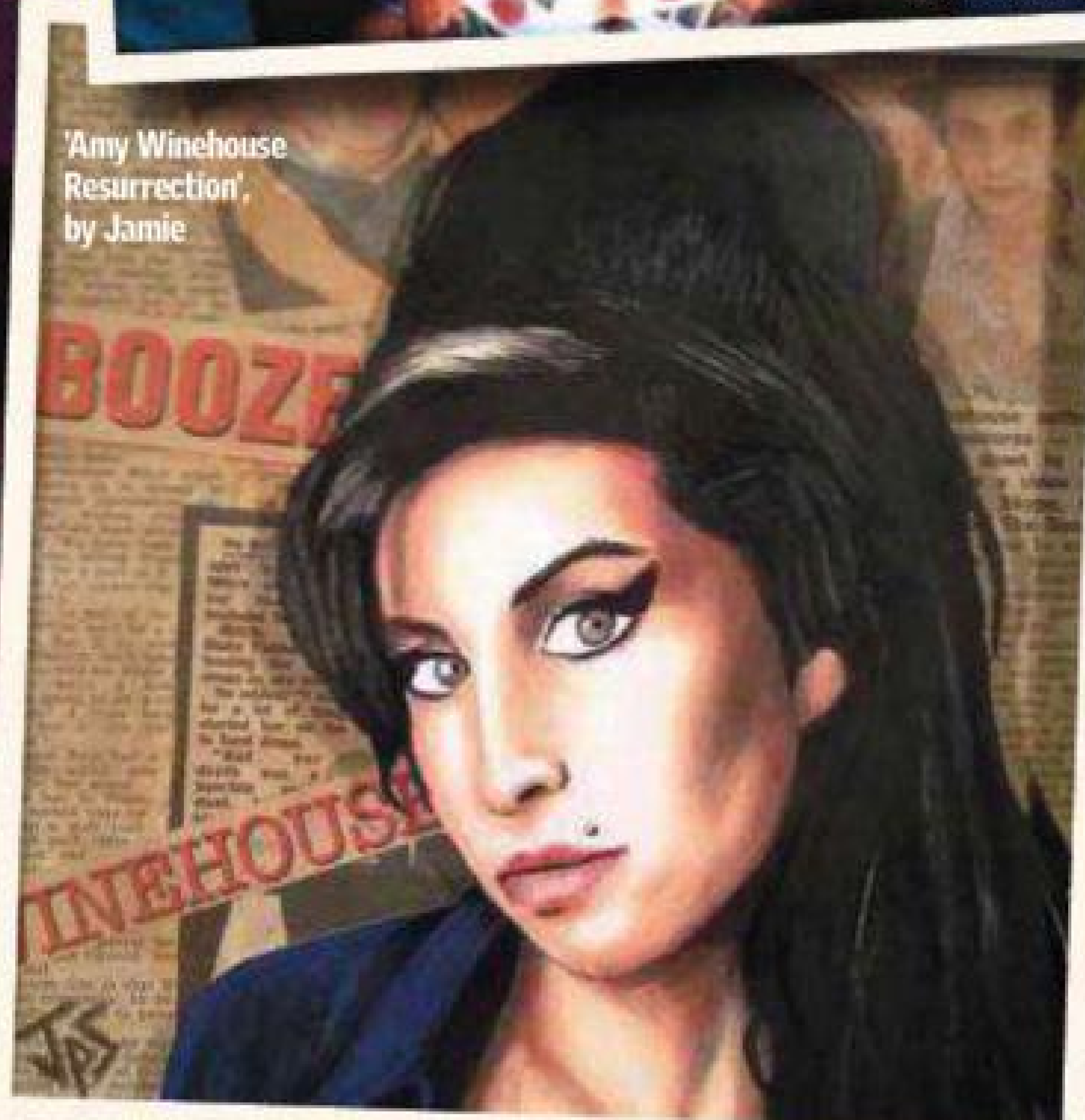
To join the steampunk revolution, begin your journey at Clockworkwatch.com



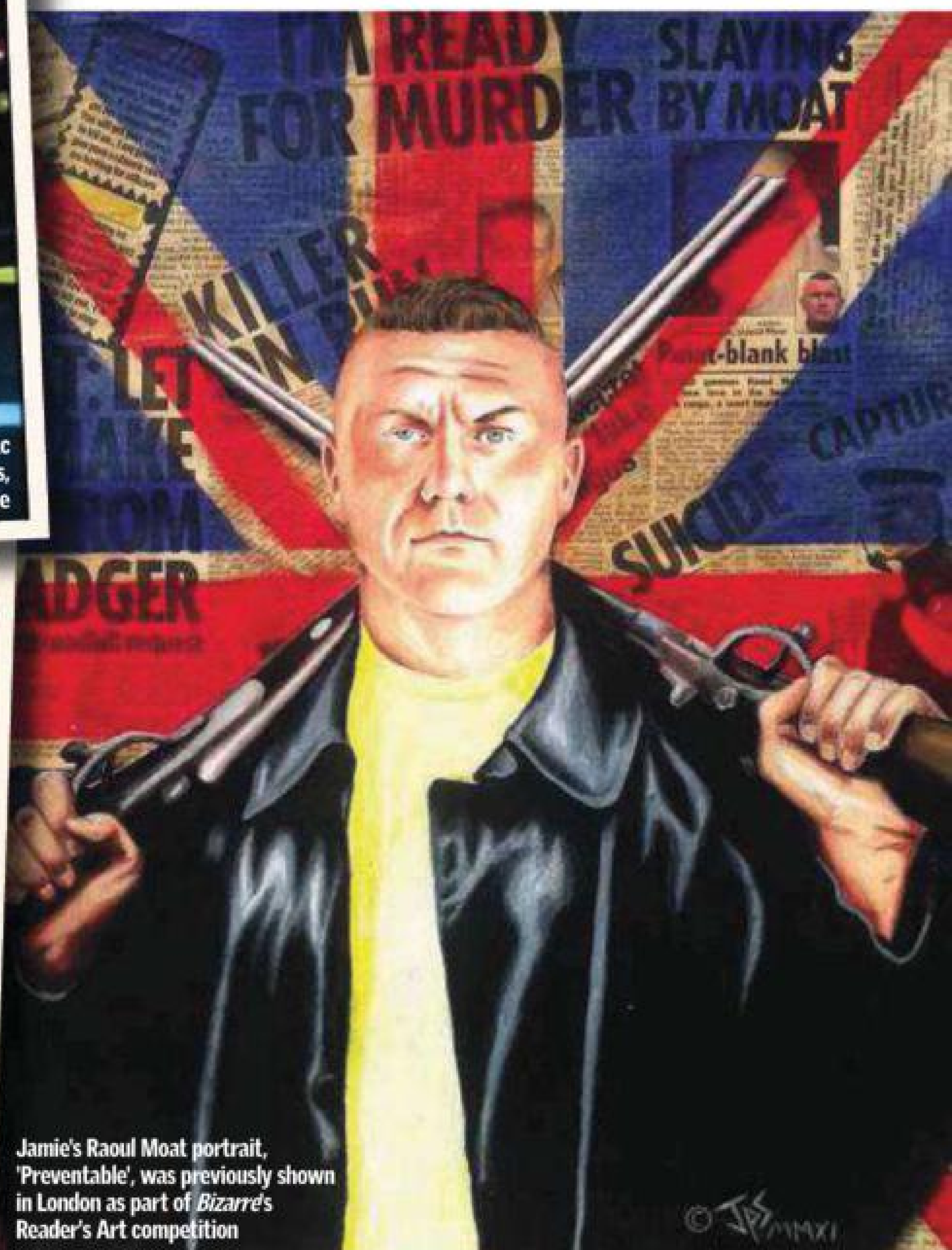
Jamie: curator of *The Resurrection*



Rap icon Tupac lives on canvas, thanks to Jamie



'Amy Winehouse Resurrection', by Jamie



Jamie's Raoul Moat portrait, 'Preventable', was previously shown in London as part of *Bizarre's* Reader's Art competition

DEAD RISING!

Up-and-coming artist brings celebs back from the grave

SOME OF THE WORLD'S MOST FAMOUS dead people were brought back to life at art show *The Resurrection*, curated by new star Jamie Scanlon.

Jamie came up with the idea for the event after he reached the final of our Readers' Art competition (see *Bizarre 189*) with his painting of fugitive gunman Raoul Moat, 'Preventable', and wanted to display it in his hometown of Weston-super-Mare, Somerset.

"When my Raoul Moat piece was selected as a finalist, I wanted to exhibit the original in Weston, so I came up with a concept of resurrecting famous and infamous people in interesting ways," he says.

The exhibition was held at Weston Arts Gallery, which was formerly a church, and

featured 25 artists including London-based Mason Storm, urban graffiti talent Cartrain, and Los Angeles street artist Free Humanity.

Jamie showed pieces including late rapper Tupac and *Poltergeist* actress Heather O'Rourke, and painted Ouija boards on the reverse of each. "I guess it was the closest thing to bringing them back!" he says.

The artist, 34, who's battled drink and drug addictions, hopes to positively influence others through his dark creations.

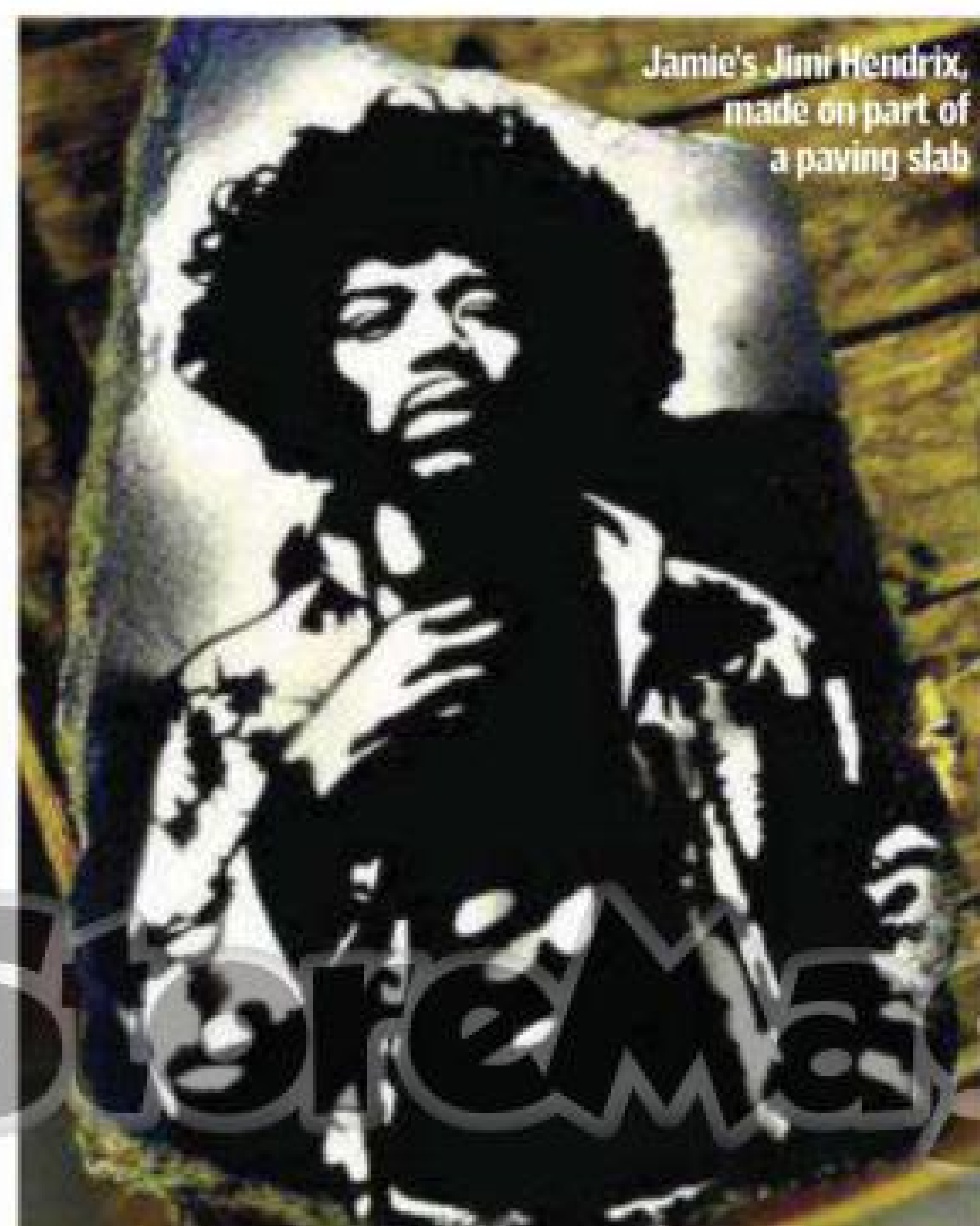
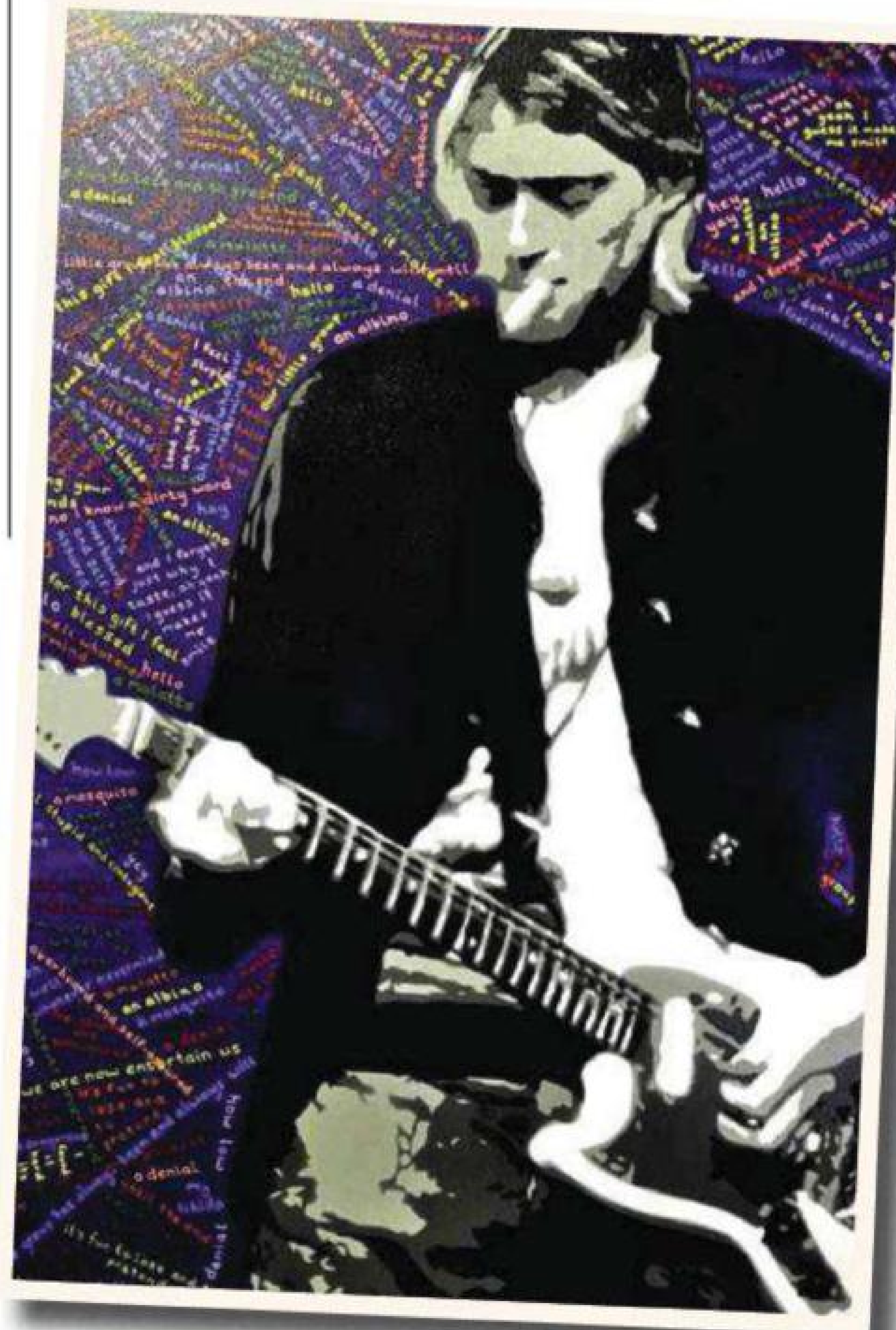
"My work gets mixed reactions – particularly the Moaty piece," he says. "I don't consider myself a role model, although I do inspire people with my ongoing struggle with drink and drugs, and my determination to try and improve my own life and others by

using the doors I've opened to help people with similar issues."

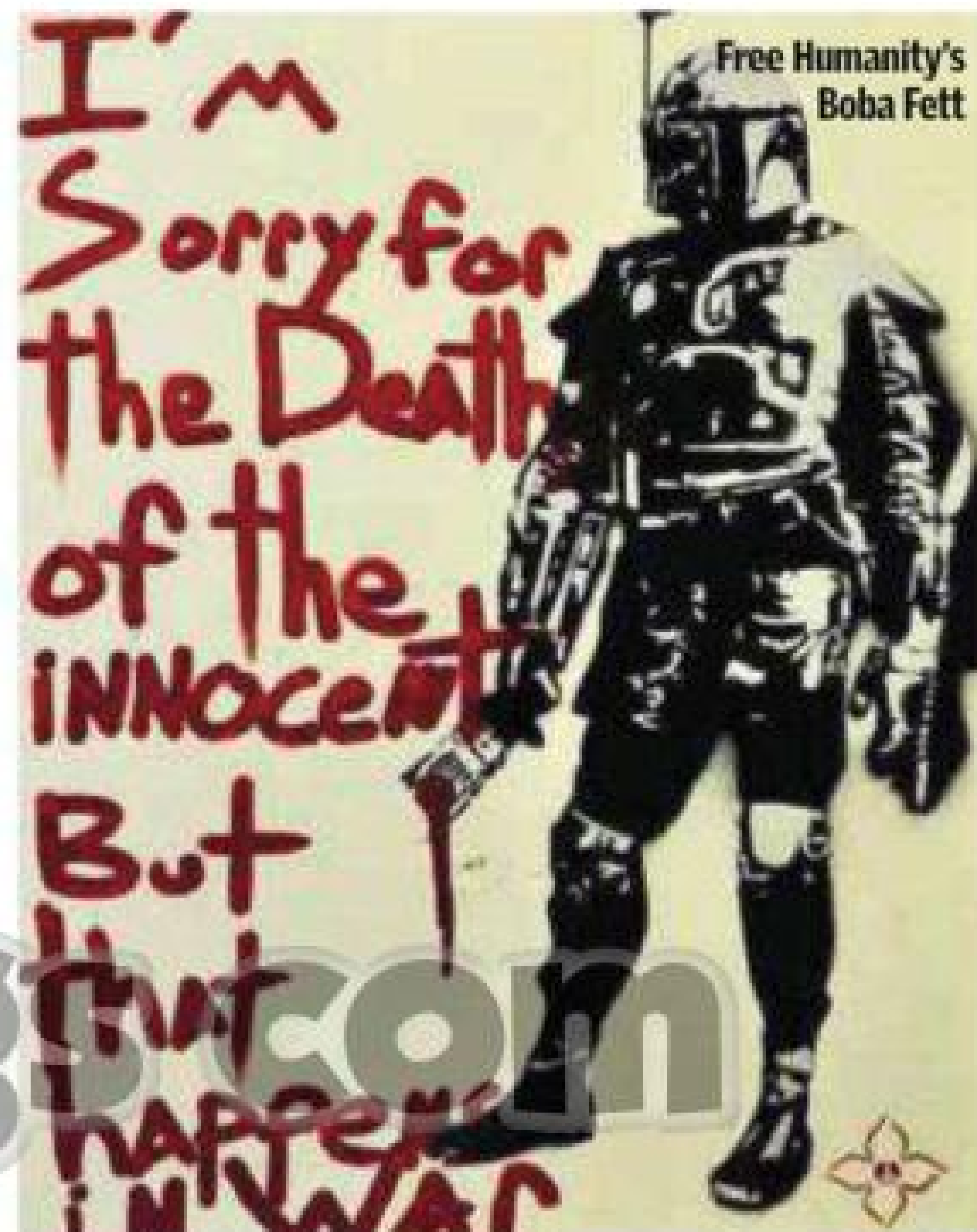
Jamie's now planning a show called *Art Apocalypse* for 12/12/12. "It'll dwarf *The Resurrection*, and I have a few big surprises in store," he says. You've been warned!

See more at Jpsartwork.bigcartel.com

The late, great Kurt Cobain, by John Green



Jamie's Jimi Hendrix, made on part of a paving slab



Free Humanity's Boba Fett



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13 QUESTIONS FOR... MICK FOLEY AND

WORDS ELEANOR GOODMAN

It's the biggest showdown in history! American wrestling legend Mick Foley – AKA Dude Love, Cactus Jack and Mankind – against, um, Aussie comedian Brendon Burns! Both have shows at *Edinburgh Festival* in August, and plan to tour together in future. But who's funnier? Piledrivers, Mandible Claws and socks stuffed in mouths won't help The Hardcore Legend in a battle of wits, but he does have a neat argument about the merits of motorboating. Meanwhile, Brendon's got a sneaky story about kangaroo rape. The pain that these two men are preparing to endure is inhuman!

1 What would you do if you woke up as a woman?

Mick I'd tweak my nipples for hours.
Brendon I'd go to a lesbian bar and try to pick up a chick! A guy in my show tonight was very hermaphrodite; I couldn't tell whether he was a guy or girl. He had long hair, a feminine face, and flaxen locks. I was jealous. I don't mind having grey hair, but I wish I could grow it out and be a silver fox. If I woke up a woman tomorrow, I'd enjoy the flowing mane. Unless I was bald.

2 If you died and became a ghost, who would you haunt?

Mick I'd get on Vince McMahon's headset, and let him know what it feels like to be badgered while trying to announce! That goes back a long time to when I was an announcer, and I didn't care for Vince's production technique.

Brendon Probably Marissa Runco, circa 1985. She was the first girl at my school to develop breasts, so I'd have a look...

Mick Can I then change my answer, and

say I'd hover over the chest of Irene Farrugia? She was the first girl to develop breasts in *my* school!

3 You're doing comedy shows, and most comedians start on the toilet circuit! What's the most disgusting toilet you've ever used?

Brendon Early in my career I had a gig in Aberdeen. I arrived at the guesthouse where I was meant to be staying, and there was a guy that looked like Rab C Nesbitt wrapped in a towel. And he goes, (adopts Rab voice) 'Are you the folk singer?' And I said, 'Ah, I'm a comedian, playing at the university.' And he goes, 'Oh, folk singer!' And hands me a key to the room. I go up, and there's *human shit* on the walls. I pull back the bedclothes to discover grey pubes. And in the bathroom, there's spunk on the floor. The toilet I can't even begin to describe. I go to the gig and the organiser tells me I should be staying at a place across town with the same name! So I said, 'Do you mean I'm *not* staying in that place?' And he goes, 'No, you're not, we wouldn't even send you to that part of *town*! What the hell! You're lucky you didn't get stabbed!' So I walked outside the uni, took the keys to the room, and flung them into the ocean.

4 That's dirty toilets covered, but can you tell us a dirty joke?

Mick Three guys wake up in a room, and one says: 'I had a horrible dream, some guy was jerking me off while I slept.' And another guy says, 'Oh, I also had a horrible dream that some guy was jerking me off while I slept.' And then the guy in the middle says, 'Oh man, what a dream, I was skiing in the Alps!' And of course, you've gotta get the hand motion in there to make it really work!

5 What's the closest you've ever come to death?

Mick It was moments before I got my head out of the ropes in Munich, Germany. The time my ear did not make the trip with me. But I thought I was going to die. (In 1994, Foley began a 'Hangman' spot, where he'd get out of two ropes around his head. Unbeknownst to him, the ropes had been tightened and he struggled to escape, ripping his ear).

Brendon In high school there was a kid called Sean Dick, which was way too much for me to work with. I was calling him 'Shaven Penis' yet again, and he reached into his locker and pulled out a convincing replica gun. He held it to my head and clicked the trigger. I immediately thought, 'This is it.' And then he laughed. And then I dragged him into the toilets and pushed him into a urinal.

BRENDON BURNS

6 What entrance music would you choose for your passage into heaven (or hell?)

Mick I'm going to go to the good place, accompanied by Barry Manilow's 'Looks Like We Made It'!

7 Do you have any recurring dreams?

Brendon I used to have a dream that a lot of angry comics have, where in the back of your mind you're thinking, 'What I'm doing doesn't have the conscience of me as a person. I'm turning up the volume on too much negativity.' Your teeth are broken glass, snakes, or barbed wire, and you're pulling them out. A psychoanalyst would say that was a sign of impotence, and at the time *that* wasn't a problem!

Mick I had a dream where I was spooning with a WWE Diva, and it was very nice. And her comment was, 'Are you wearing pants? That's really not cool.' So it's part of my recurring theme of being rejected sexually in my dreams.

8 Talking of sex organs... If you could strap a bushel of nettles to anyone's crotch, who would you choose?

Brendon Mine, just so I could develop a tolerance!

Mick It could be a general excuse to scratch in public. But I'm going to have to skip, because I wouldn't wish that on anyone.

9 Brendon, you recently Tweeted that you hated swans. What have they done to you?

Brendon Swans are the epitome of British classism and snobbery – only the Royals are allowed to eat them. And in England, everyone goes, 'Ooh, look out, a swan will break your arm!' And some sort of Australian thing kicks in and goes, 'Fuck off, we've got snakes that can kill you by looking at you!'

Mick We have swans around our house, and they poop everywhere. So *at times* I hate them. Raccoons are infamous for getting into garbage cans in the United States, but they're hard to hate because they're so snugly-looking. Although they'd tear you to shreds.

10 Have you ever been attacked by an animal?

Brendon I was almost raped by a kangaroo when I was seven. My friend Arnoud Cayeux gave it a football bump, because it was about to snap my back. I've got a scar underneath my eyebrow, but I could've been a paraplegic!

11 You guys are playing Edinburgh. If you were the king of its castle, what rules would you have?

Mick I've done terrible things to people for a living, so I don't have to imagine having power and the right to do those same things to people. Just go for it, and be merry.

Brendon Swan BBQ for the working classes!

12 Mick, your show description says that you've got a "unique insight into politics, world peace and pornography". Ooh! What is it, then?

Mick It's about how they all can work together to benefit each other. A bit of the show is about how much safer we'd all be if, instead of waterboarding terrorist suspects, we'd choose a different aquatic-sounding adventure and *motorboat* them. Motorboating as I understand it is the rapid-fire assault on a human face, usually male but not always, by a pair of human breasts, usually female but not always – as anyone who's seen my match with Big Daddy V might attest. The information would be much quicker, more forthcoming, and with less loss of lives and treasure. I've been in a position where I was unexpectedly motorboated, and I would've given everything I owned – including my country's deepest secrets – to let that experience continue.

UNLUCKY

13 You've had several personas in your time, Mick. But have either of you ever been given a nickname you didn't like?

Mick I was heavy growing up, and did not care for the name 'Moby Mick'. When I was eight my mum got me the young readers' version of Melville's *Moby Dick*, and someone taped an M over the D. That hurt me!

Brendon I had a big mouth and was quick-witted, so I bullied the bullies. But when I was the new kid at one school, some people called me 'SH', which was short for 'Shithead'. And then I pounded one of them.

See Mick and Brendon at the *Edinburgh Festival*. Mick's show, *Prisoner Of Raw*, runs from 8-11 August. Brendon will perform *Home Stretch Baby* from 4-25 August. For more, take a trip to: Brendonburnscomedian.com and Realmickfoley.com



Six pages of the sexiest alt.models,
freakiest art and best body mods!

HOTSHOTS >GIRLS

THIS IS

Well, not just any old Tess. *Bizarre* presents the perfect proportions, eerie eroticism and intense intelligence of
Tessa Kuragi

NOT A TESS

PICTURE: STEPHEN PERRY: STEPHENPERRY.COM





Tessa Kuragi is half British, a quarter Indian, a quarter Jamaican, and 100 per cent hypnotic – although she sees herself as “a Japanese schoolgirl with an imaginary jellyfish friend that lives on my head”. She was brought up in Jamaica in “relative poverty”, but her British relatives were wealthy, making for an “interesting” childhood. “I’m no stranger to bathing out of a bucket, but the UK side of my family are pretty well-off, so I know my Ps and Qs, and had the rather unfortunate experience of attending an English public school,” she says.

Her tuition obviously paid off, because in addition to being kooky and witty, Tessa is smarter than a freshly-pressed suit. We’re not allowed to reveal her top-secret superwoman day job, but suffice to say that this lass has more brains than a zombie’s larder.

Thanks to her doll-like face, precision hair and frankly incredible figure – which is voluptuous yet slender – Ms Kuragi gets booked for many haute couture fashion

shoots. Yet we’re most intrigued by the personal, dark, sexually-charged projects she’s involved with.

Fascinated by Japanese-influenced ideas of taboo and the forbidden, along with the fetishisation of injury, helplessness, and power play, Tessa stars in a multitude of images and films wearing neck and leg braces (her most prized possession is an antique 1940s leather and metal back brace, complete with attached stocking suspenders), and an eye patch. And in some pictures, her mouth or chin is gripped by a man’s hand.

Undertones of violence pervade some of the pictures, but the viewer is often kept guessing as to what’s really happening. Many of these photos are deliberately designed to look vintage or cinematic, which further intensifies their atmospheric qualities.

SAUCY MINX

To gain a deeper insight into Tessa’s unique sensuality, we asked her to tell us what excites her senses of touch, taste and smell.

“I love having my collar bones and the area under my ribcage pulled, and the sensation of squeezing Play-Doh,” she muses. “In terms of scents, I like the smell of someone wearing white latex – it reminds me of mozzarella – and the odour of carpeted, wood-panelled houses, which makes me sweetly nostalgic about staying at my grandma’s home. Taste-wise, I love anything watermelon-flavoured, and Heinz Tomato Ketchup... I’d love to swim in a tank of the stuff!”

Want to endear yourself to Tessa by sending her a special treat? Her wish list includes: “replacement electric toothbrush heads; another Hello Kitty ‘massager’ from Japan; honey-roasted cashews and a jar of pickled shallots; a taxidermy albino peacock; a vintage orthopaedic saw set; and some pet baby jellyfish that I can call ghetto gangsta names like Shaniqua and dress in gold chains and ‘batty rider’ shorts”.

Unusual presents? Yes – but Tessa Kuragi is a woman of unusual gifts.

[See more at Tessa-kuragi.com](http://Tessa-kuragi.com)

HOTSHOTS > DARK ART

WORDS ALIX FOX ALL IMAGES ARE COPYRIGHT OF NOMI CHI

“ONCE YOU GET TO NOMI, YOU’RE SURE TO LIKE ME!”

Bizarre discusses decapitation, overused octopus imagery and scar tissue with artist Nomi Chi

Nomi Chi is only 23, and still a student – she’s two years into a bachelor’s degree majoring in illustration in Vancouver, Canada. However, *Bizarre* can already tell that the tattooist-cum-painter is going to be bigger than a BBW’s slouchy Sunday jogging bottoms; she’s working on conceptual artwork for EA Games, and has displayed her work internationally alongside some big-shot lowbrow names. Ever eager to get our nippy little teeth into the tastiest new Dark Art morsels while they’re still fresh, *Bizarre* pinned Nomi down for a chat. She purred.

You like to draw things that have been chopped up, or are in various states of decomposition. Where does your fascination with sliced’n’diced rotting stuff come from?

“I’m not sure. Interesting ideas usually hit me when I’m just wandering around in my normal-person suit, doing normal-person things. For example, cruising by the deli makes me wonder how animals such as goldfish, sloths and stick insects might taste, and how I could paint them sliced carefully like sashimi.

“I’m often inspired when little chunks of chaos break off and intercept my daily routine: I recently dozed off on the bus and had a vivid dream that I was standing in a crowd at the foot of a Mayan temple. Priests were performing a decapitation ceremony above me. There was blood everywhere, but by the time it reached me it had coagulated into millions of tiny red cinnamon heart candies. I woke up feeling terrified and charged with energy.

“I do require a certain frequency of energy to be creative; I need to be really happy, angry, or anxious to make art. I can’t do it if I’m feeling stagnant or complacent.”

Lots of your images contain snails. What do they represent to you?

“As a fan of sacred geometry (the religious and mathematical study of recurring shapes

and structures in nature) I find great pleasure in drawing the labyrinthine spirals of their shells. Snails are also so alien in form and behaviour that I can’t help but feel mesmerised by them. I used to paint a lot of cephalopods for the same reasons, but everyone’s into squids and octopi these days, and I refuse to participate in a subject matter circle-jerk. By the way, licking live snails and slugs is an interesting experience...”

Some of your characters look frightening old – sagging, wrinkling, vulnerable and even evil. How do you feel about aging?

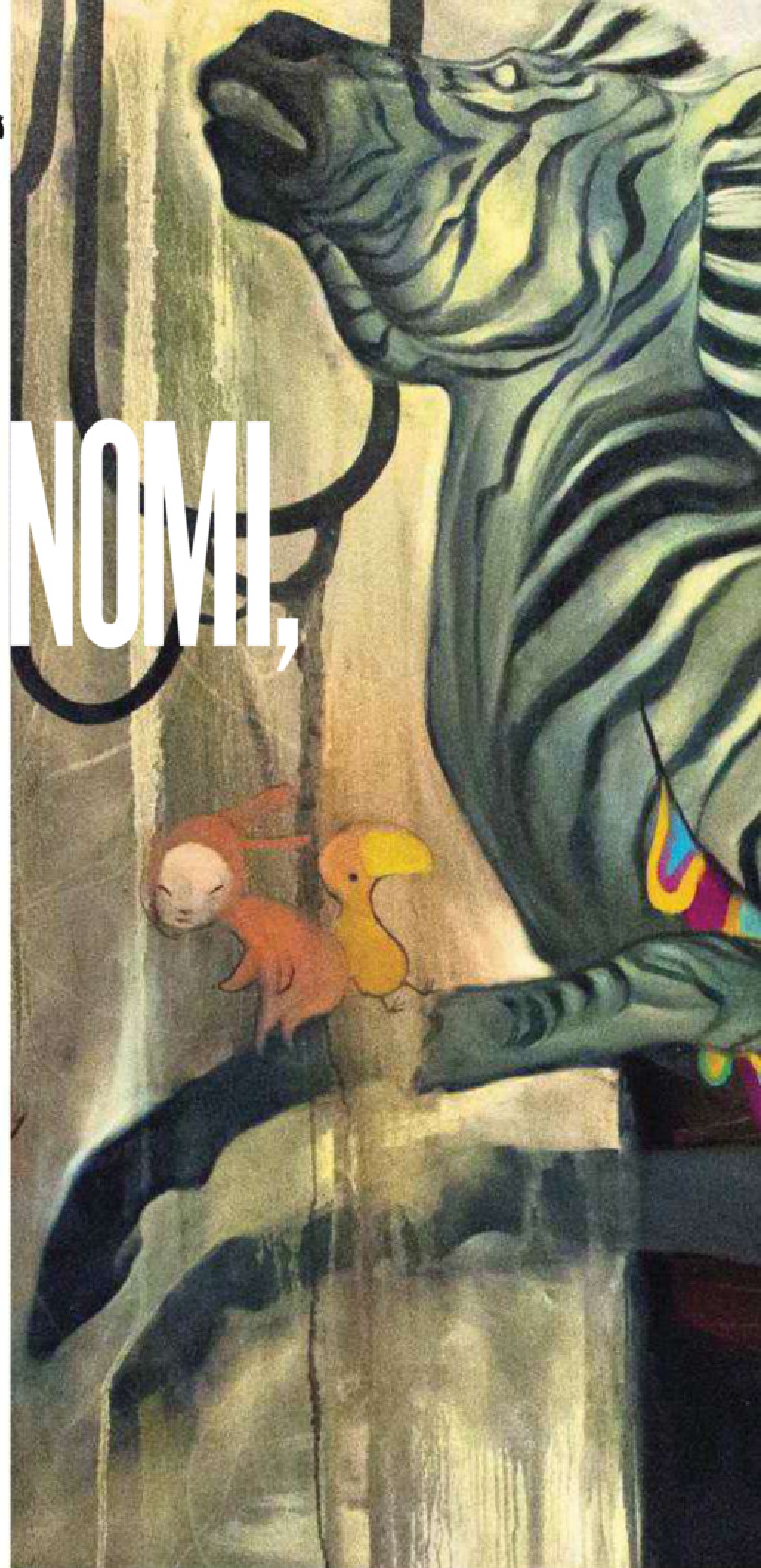
“I like my images to look tactile”

“I’m interested by the personalities produced by wrinkles, decay, cellulite, and anomalous body features. I want my images to teeter on that tiny space between ugly and desirable, and I like them to look tactile, so the wrinkled textures you see are an aesthetic choice rather than a statement about getting old. Maybe ask me again in a few years and I’ll have a different approach, though.”

You support yourself by tattooing. What are your favourite designs to ink?

“My best tattoos are the ones I’ve done over scar tissue. As much as I appreciate the craft and aesthetic value that goes into a well-designed tattoo, I often feel that my career boils down to the fact that I draw nice things on people with pointy needles, and it’s not that big of a deal.

“Scars are a different story. It truly warms my scaly reptile heart to know that my art is going to help someone by taking something that makes them feel ashamed or ugly – something that reminds them of a time they want to forget – and making it into a nice image they can wear proudly.





'Apocalyptic Visions As Experienced Through The Nervous System Of A Jellyfish'

My sister was involved in a car accident a long time ago, leaving her with extensive scars on one of her legs. I'm in the process of giving her a full leg piece to transform them."

What's your workspace like?

"I paint in my titchy kitchen-stroke-living-room, so it smells of vegetarian stir-fry, hummus, incense and turpentine.

"I use a small projector to beam preparatory sketches onto large canvases to help form an outline before I begin a big work, as there's nothing more shitty than getting part way through an eight-foot painting and realising you've ballsed up the composition. I'm also getting more involved in making figurines.

"I find that music demands too much of my attention and stops me getting into a paint-ready meditative state, so instead I tune into podcasts of TED talks (educational lectures). They help me feel more like I'm participating in an intelligent conversation, rather than painting alone in a cave that stinks of teriyaki sauce."

See more at Nomi-chi.com

'The Captain'



HOTSHOTS > BODY MODS

CONVERSE-ATION STARTER

The shoe must go on for Troy Martin – over the Converse sneakers he has permanently tattooed onto his feet!

WORDS **ALIX FOX**
PHOTOS **TROY MARTIN**
AND **THEBEAUTYMARKTATTOOING.COM**

Troy Martin is a real sole man. A tattoo artist at The Beauty Mark studio in Connecticut, USA, he has a pair of Converse Chuck Taylor All Star hi-top sneakers inked onto his ankles, so it looks like he's wearing shoes 24/7.

"I've loved Converse footwear since I was a child – I'd moan and complain if my mum forced me to wear smart, sensible brogues to church, protesting that God wouldn't care if I wore my Chucks!" he laughs. "In the winter of 2008, just after I'd finished my tattooing apprenticeship at The Beauty Mark, I decided to get the Converse star logo inked on the inside of my right ankle in the same position as it appears on the sneakers, in homage to my favourite kicks."

Troy asked his mentor, Peter Coinin Junior – who studied under his tattoo artist father, Peter Coinin Senior, founder of the first Beauty Mark parlour in 1979 – to commit the star to his skin, so Peter prepared a guideline transfer of the logo and applied it to his pal's leg.

While the transfer dried, Peter started sketching the rest of the sneaker onto Troy's foot with a marker, just for a laugh... but what started as a joke soon captured both men's imaginations, and suddenly Troy's tatt project got a whole lot bigger.

"First, Peter drew the stitching in the canvas, around the star logo, and we both had a chuckle, but then he sketched in the criss-crossed laces tied at the top in a long, looping bow, and it looked too bad-ass not to tattoo the whole shoe," Troy recalls.

"We tattooed the whole of the right shoe that day, and I immediately wanted to run to church barefoot!"



Troy's loved Converse since he was a kid, and obviously still has a sense of fun!

SNEAKER PIMP

A month later, after his mod had healed, Troy sent a snap to advertising bods at Converse in New York, asking if they'd be interested in documenting the tattoo process on his left foot for marketing purposes. He even got a pedicure so that his plates of meat would look as appealing as possible to the brand! The

preening and primping must have worked, as Converse said they'd be interested in seeing a video of the procedure.

"My Beauty Mark colleague Ernesto Nave had studied filming techniques, so prior to my second tattoo session, he set to work hiring top-notch cameras, mics, and lights," says Troy. "The shop is closed on Sundays so we had the place to ourselves, and the atmosphere was electric: Pete's favourite band, KISS, blared from the stereo, and Ernesto shouted directions."

"I sat – and stood, for the stitching on my Achilles tendon – for over two hours while my left foot was shod with ink. We wanted the video to look as dynamic as possible, which meant filming from different angles, so the job took longer, which meant more pain... but ain't excruciating pleasure a fantastic way to feel alive?"

Troy's agony continued for over a week while his second tatt healed. "My foot was swollen and raw, and every step felt like

walking into a puddle of lava," he winces. "When I gingerly washed the skin, invisible gremlins gnawed on my flesh with razor-sharp teeth. But the lava cooled, the gremlins moved onto my car motor (which is another story!) and it was all worth it for my perma-Chucks!"

Guttingly, four years on, Converse still hasn't done anything with Troy's vid. However, while fame, fortune, and shoe-business allude him, Troy has no regrets about his hi-top tats. "I love the reactions I get from people when I'm able to show off my feet during the summer months," he grins. "Some folks want to take pictures, and most think – like me – that it's a hilarious farce, while others think my design is stupid."

Troy also reassures us that girls don't mind that he can't remove his shoes before sex. "The very few women who've had me at their mercy since my feet were tattooed have been accepting... even on the good sheets! Ha!" he laughs. "One lovely lady-friend asked me to put socks on, but explained that my toenails were scratching her legs rather than my ink offending her!"

BEST FOOT FORWARD

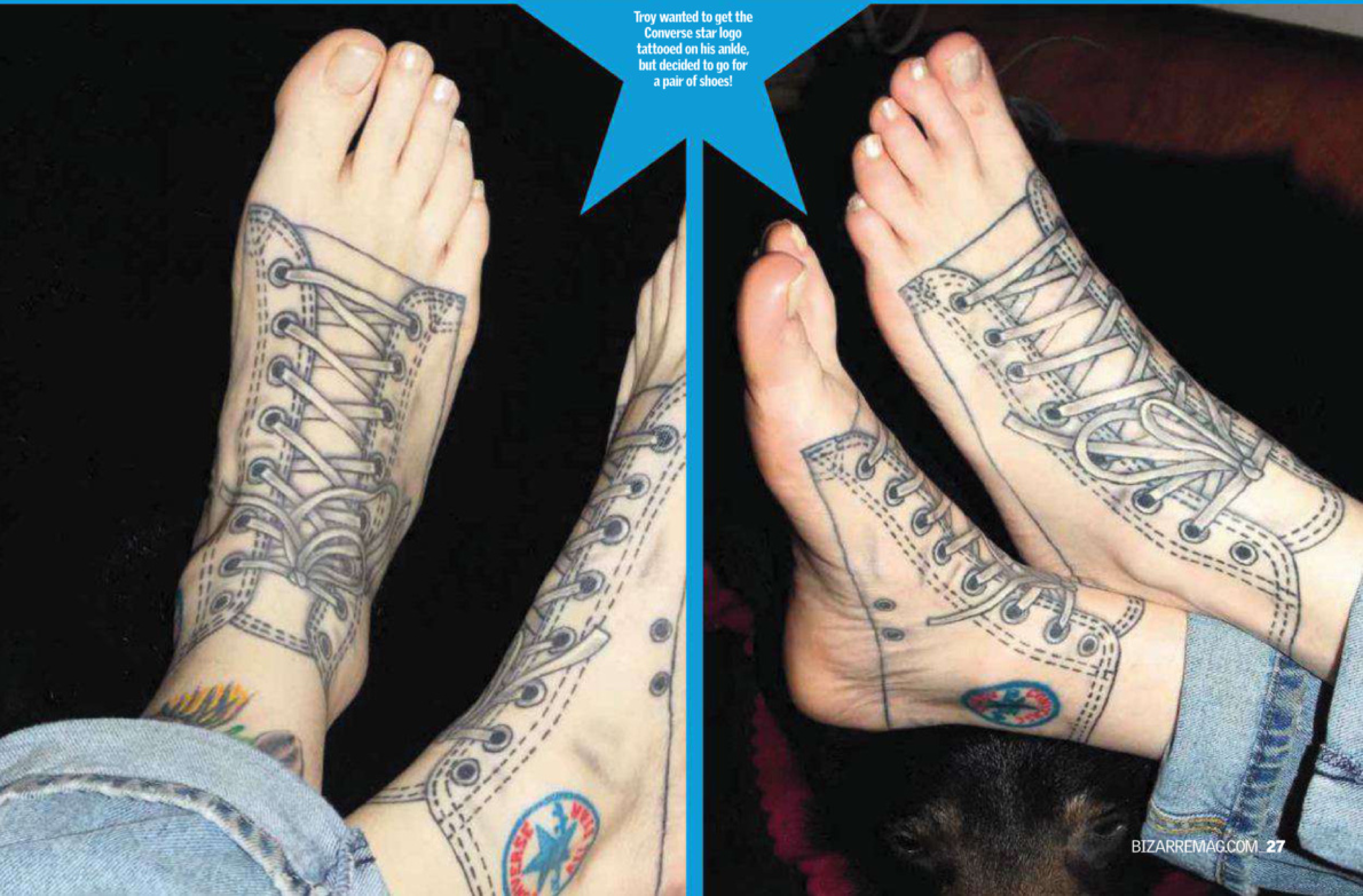
In addition to his Con-tro-verse-sial foot mods, Troy's got a collection of clown-themed tattoos, and plans to dedicate his entire left arm to baseball team the New York Yankees. He and the rest of his buddies at The Beauty Mark are also working on paintings for various gallery shows.

"I love each and every one of my inking cohorts at the studio," Troy beams. "I consider myself to be among a lucky few people on this earth who wakes up every morning eager to get to work... and doesn't even have to tie his shoes!"

Watch the video of Troy getting his left foot tattooed at Tinyurl.com/shoetatts. See more at Thebeautymarktattooing.com and meet Troy at Facebook.com/Tarthurmartin



Troy wanted to get the
Converse star logo
tattooed on his ankle,
but decided to go for
a pair of shoes!



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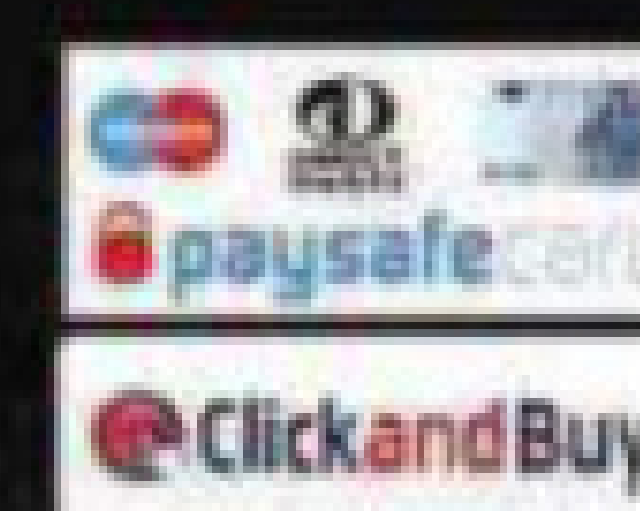


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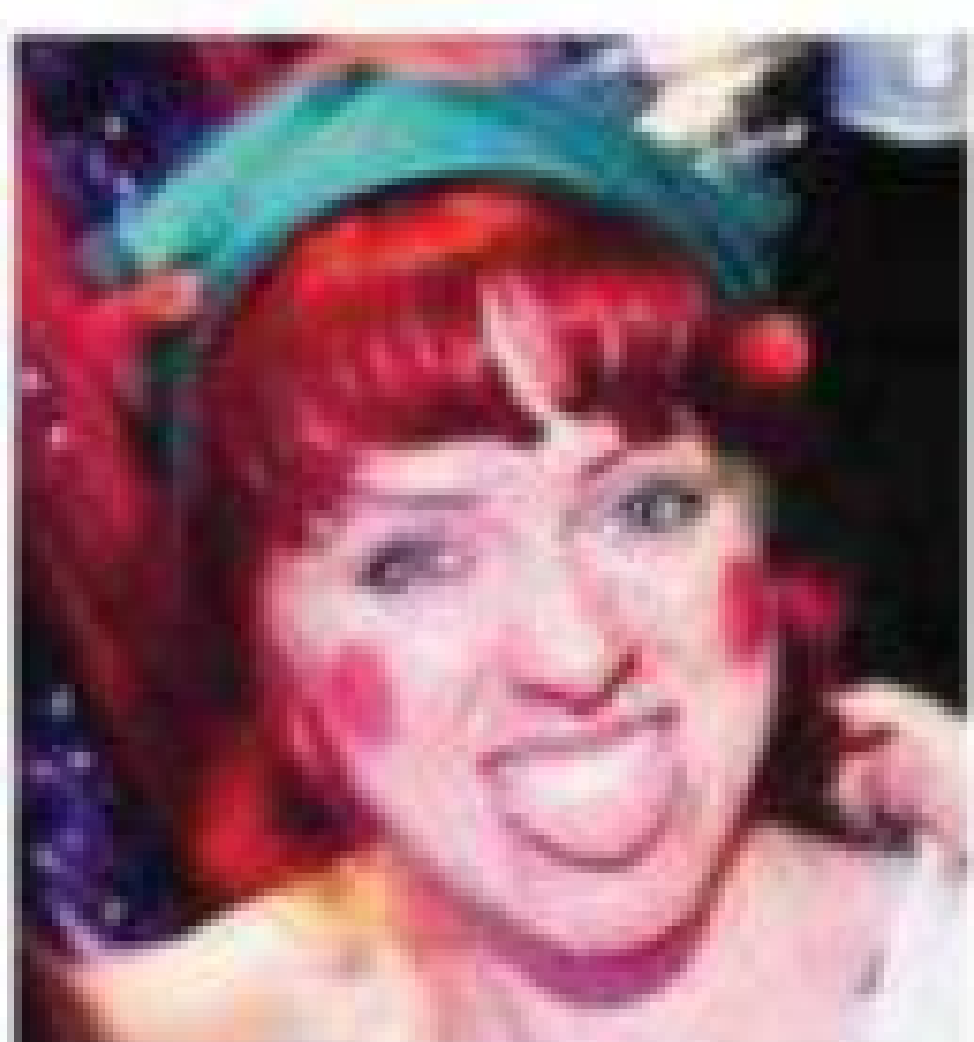
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RANT AT US AND SEND US SHIT!

Bizarre's own Auntie Den loves nothing better than knocking back a tankard of gin and poring over your news of debauched nights on the town, weird shop finds, perverted confessions, psychotic art, retina-wrenching ink, and daily bowel movements.

Auntie Den's favourite submissions will make it onto these hallowed pages!

Junk mail

EDITED BY AUNTIE DEN

AUNTIEDEN@BLACKTHORNCOMMUNICATIONS.COM

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BEND AND FAP

I've been looking through some old issues of *Bizarre*, and I came across one featuring the extremely bendy Zlata (below) on the cover.

I remembered reading somewhere about a bloke who said he'd like to date a girl like her, but when given the chance, he turned it down.

I don't know if he was joking, but he should have gone for it. I'd love to meet someone like her. She's amazing!

Bizarre is the best thing I've ever come across, and it keeps me happy for long hours. I can't wait for the next one.

Luke Harrison, via Facebook

Auntie Den says: Like you, Luke, plenty of people have spent endless, joyful hours coming across old issues of *Bizarre*. Let me take this opportunity to shamelessly point you in the direction of our alternative dating site. There might be a contortionist on there waiting for a guy like you to bend her and shape her anyway you want her. At the very least, there'll probably be a chick that can touch her toes without bending her knees. Meet other alternative singles over at Savagehearts.com.

Zlata feeling!
Please believe it!



Dumpstar!



WELL
DONE! YOU WIN
THE BOOZE!

MONSTER MAKEOVER!

I was the lucky gal who won your horror prosthetic makeover competition, to celebrate the release of Universal Pictures' latest Blu-ray DVD, *Intruders*!

On the day, I was led to a room filled with powders, potions and brushes, and introduced to Florence Carter, the special FX make-up artist assigned to transform me from bare-face to scare-face! She showed me the silicone mask that was to be applied to my skin to turn me into Hollow Face, the scary character from the film!

Stripped of my make-up, Florence started to apply a thick silicone gel to my face to bind the

mask to my skin, and explained how it would gradually mold and move to my features as it reached my body temperature. As the mask was applied and pressed into place, I was thankful that I wasn't claustrophobic. When I sat up and looked in the mirror, someone else's face stared back at me!

As the finer detailing of lines and shading started, I was rapidly becoming the stuff of nightmares. I jumped at the chance to try out the contact lenses and, once I had the wig on, I was unrecognisable.

I got into character and tried out a bit of lurking and creeping before the time came for my new face to be peeled back. I was given a mini facial and had my make up re-applied for me. For someone who'd just been



Hollowface:
disadvantaged
when it comes
to performing
oral sex

a monster, I left looking better than when I arrived.

I'm now itching to watch *Intruders* to see who looks scarier - Hollow Face or me!

Thank you *Bizarre* and Universal for such a unique experience and a fantastic day!

Anastasia Scrivener, Peterborough

Hollow Face says: You've got the look down, but are you proficient in the art of making people shit their strides? If you want tips on how to hide in wardrobes and terrorise children, grab the *Intruders* Blu-ray DVD, out now, and see how *this guy* does it.



Mmmmm, it's Amy!



MODEL BEHAVIOUR

It's been a while since I made my first *Bizarre* appearance in 'Proud To Be Different' (*Bizarre* 149). I got in contact after you ran a feature on Lobster Claw Boy, and, born with a hand deformity myself, I was hoping to get into the world of modelling and open people's minds to real 'alternative' models.

I wanted to let you guys know that, despite bringing up a devilish three-year-old, I'm still working hard in front of the camera, and I recently did a shoot involving full latex, guns and a gorgeous hot rod car (above)!

I also won a 'Pin-Ups In Pinnies' competition and will be in their 2013 calendar, and I'm planning a Jessica Rabbit shoot next. I'm really starting to put my back into it now, and my tip for any girls or guys who have physical differences and want to break into modelling is to keep trying and have high hopes. I'm determined I'll get there!

Amy Hughes, Lancashire

TEA AND ROAST

I'm a mega-fan of *Bizarre*, and I'm on a one-man mission to bring back gory injuries to 'Junk Mail'! Unfortunately for me, my knee gave way from underneath me as I was pouring a full, just boiled, kettle of water. The scalding liquid splashed over my hand and wrist and I gained some fantastic blisters. A week later, the blisters turned into a lovely bag of puss (below). It turns out I had an infection that was spreading up my arm, and I was immediately taken to hospital, jacked up on morphine, and spent five days in the burns unit.

My arms is healing well, but I've got nerve damage and my tattoo has faded quite a lot. When it's healed properly, I'm thinking of getting a new tattoo of an evil teapot spurting hot drips, just above the burned area. It might help me to mentally get over it.

Jak Price, by email



We know it's wrong, but we so wanna burst these!



YOUR PLOP FROM THE SHOPS!

Keep spending your hard-earned cash on crap, and we'll keep printing pictures of it! Email photos to: Auntieden@blackthorncommunications.com



FRIENDS FUREVER

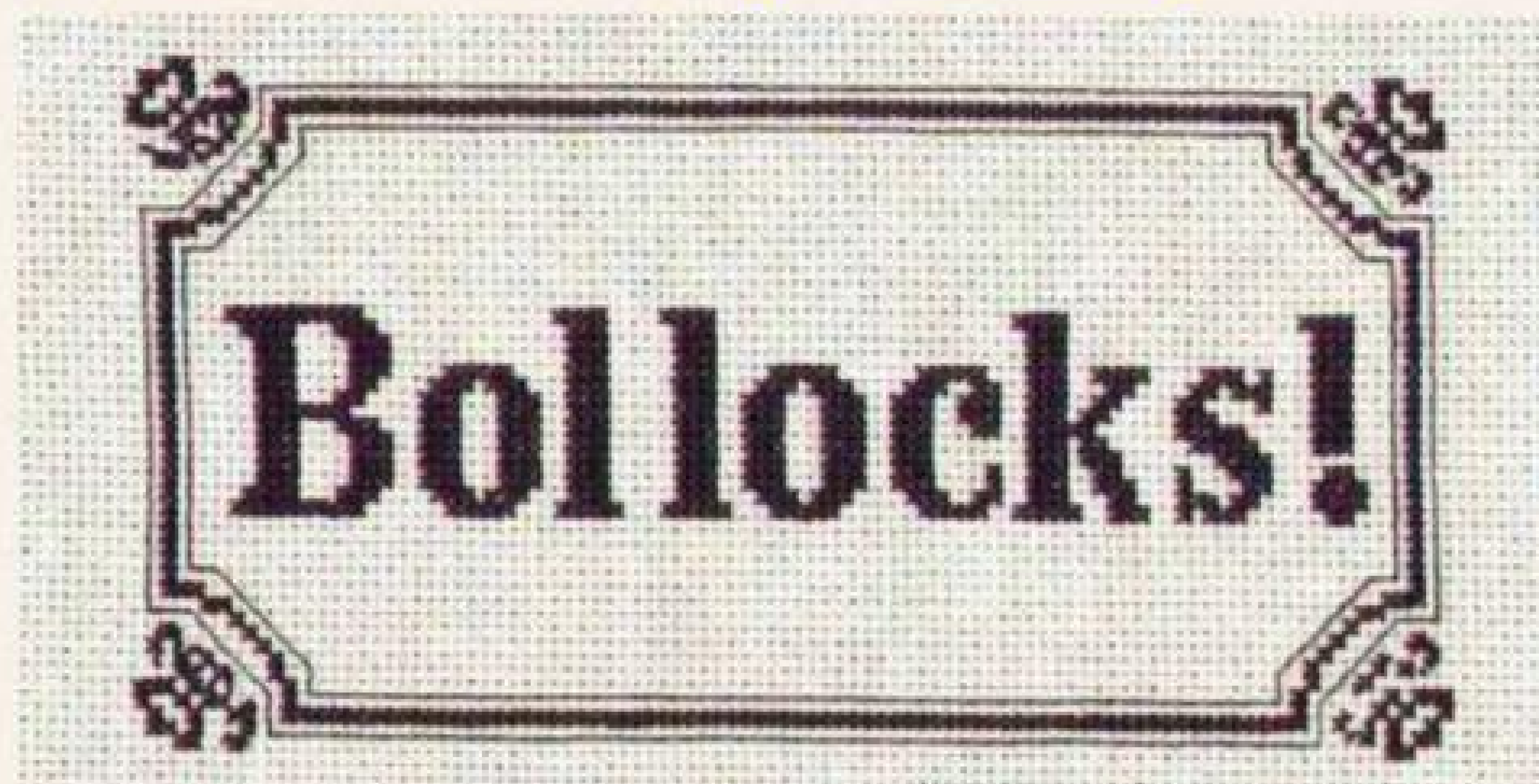
This is Mosh (left), my new friend and a companion to my ferret of five years, Mashiimi. Yes, they're both named after *Bizarre* cover girls. I'm planning a ferret photoshoot, but I've got to coax Mashiimi to flop her cones out first.

James Bucknall, by email

BITCHES FOR STITCHES

Twisted Stitches by Phil Davison is now officially my favourite alternative crafting book! The patterns are edgy and right up *Bizarre*'s alley. I've just started doing the Bollocks! sign (below). I know your readers would love it.

Birdcagecasey, by email



QUEEN OF PARPS

As a fart fetish enthusiast, I nearly trumped my trousers when I saw this picture in my local Saint Francis Hospice charity shop window. While most shoppers saw a lady jogger who had humourously split her pants, I saw a council estate type whose favourite trackie bottoms had fallen victim to a particularly vicious rectal burp.

British Gas Man, Huddersfield



HORROR DOLL

I went to visit my sister in the sleepy Kent town of Sevenoaks, and spotted this abomination in a charity shop window. That woolly body! That menacing smile! Those cold, dead eyes! This creepy clown thing has been haunting my nightmares ever since I clapped eyes on it. And what's with that grinning bag of spuds in the background? I thought Sevenoaks was a nice place, but it's a home for monsters!

Dr B, by email

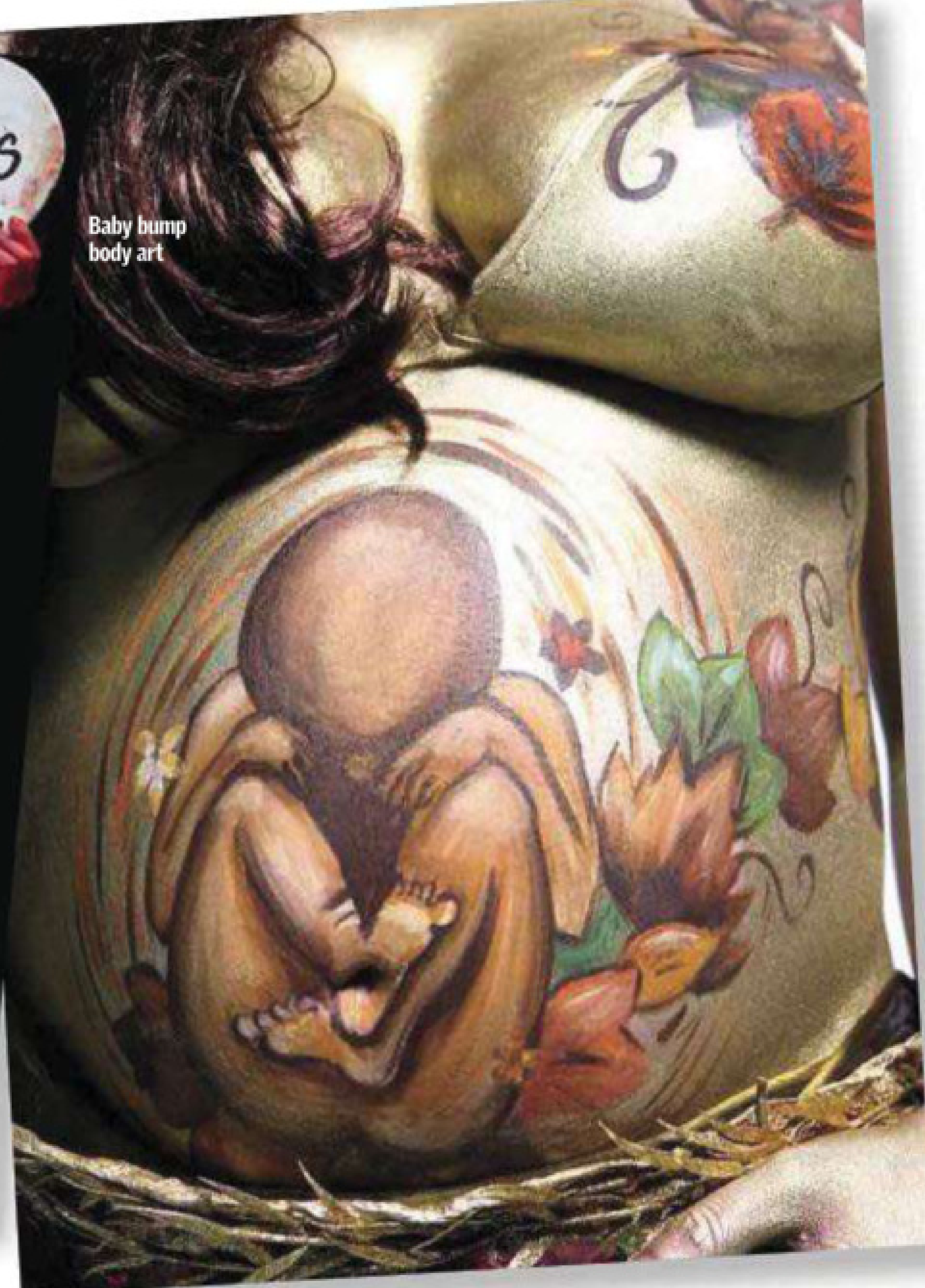


Death becomes her

Eye-popping pop art



Baby bump body art



PIMP MY BUMP

I know *Bizarre* is a big fan of Neil Gaiman, so here's my body painting piece inspired by the character Death, from his comicbook series, *The Sandman* (above). The pop art girl was for a competition I entered in Austria, where I came second place! I also paint ladies' baby bumps!

Sarah Attwell, Londonbodypainting.co.uk



Thanks for the nightmares, Sweetperversion

OCTOMUSH

After seeing the sexy *Tattoos & Tentacles* book images on the *Bizarre* 187 cover, I wanted to introduce you to Quincy, the dead octopus. I needed him for a photography project in which I had to let him, and a pear, decay over a period of 10 days to document the process of decomposition. I kept him outside because he started to really stink, especially when I turned the hair dryer on him and mashed him with a spoon to speed things up.

Sweetperversion, via Tumblr

DEMONOLOGY

During the last year, I've been on a mission to create a demon A-Z. After some intense research and rewrites, I've finally posted it online. But it's not an, "Oooh, they're all real, watch your back" piece. I'm studying for a degree in History, which includes archaeology and religion, and I've taken a more anthropological and historical view of the origins of the myths. It's not as dull as it may sound, as I've injected some

humour and added elements of modern culture, so that people can relate to aspects of it without nodding off as soon as I mention the word 'Sumerian'.

It's a continuing work and it'll keep growing, but I thought *Bizarre* readers would enjoy the work so far. You can view my demon hit-list at Chaindaisy.com/demonsintro.php. Anne-Marie Woolley, by email

THIGH-HIGH

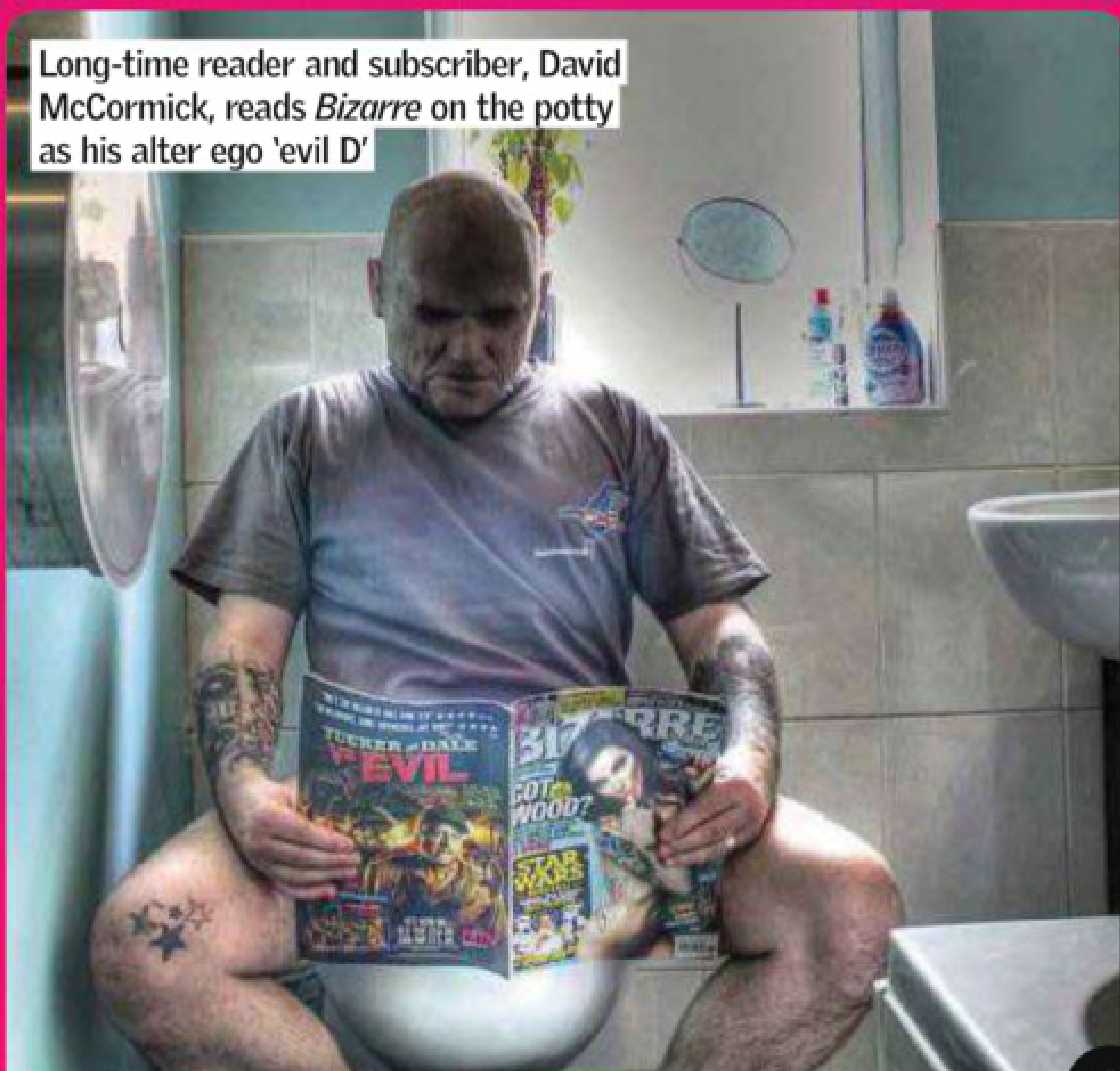
In a past issue of *Bizarre*, you ran an article on fetish artist, Brian Viveros. I like his piece 'Dirt Tease' so much, I've had it inked on my thigh courtesy of Tom at Angel Tattoo & Piercing in Middlesbrough.

Clarebare, via Tumblr



Clarebare's teasing tatt

Long-time reader and subscriber, David McCormick, reads *Bizarre* on the potty as his alter ego 'evil D'



WHERE DO YOU READ YOURS?

Most of you enjoy perusing *Bizarre* on the crapper, just like King Karim Jamal (right), but we want to see you reading the world's greatest rag on the highest peaks, in the lowest valleys... and in the weirdest places!



"FROM WHERE I'M SITTING, IT LOOKS LIKE EVIL D IS HAVING AN EVIL DUMP!"

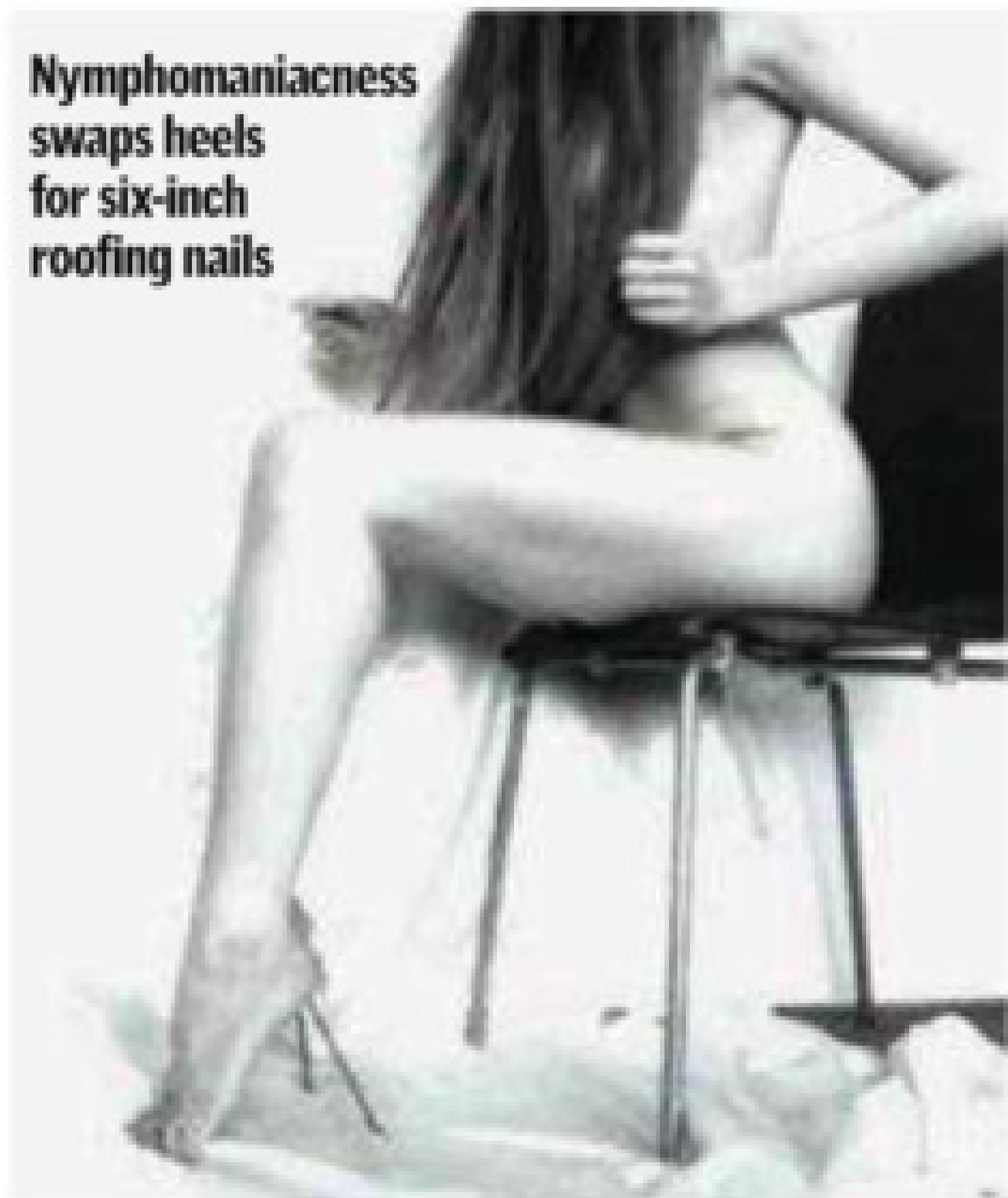


YOUR BIZARRE PHOTO ASSAULT

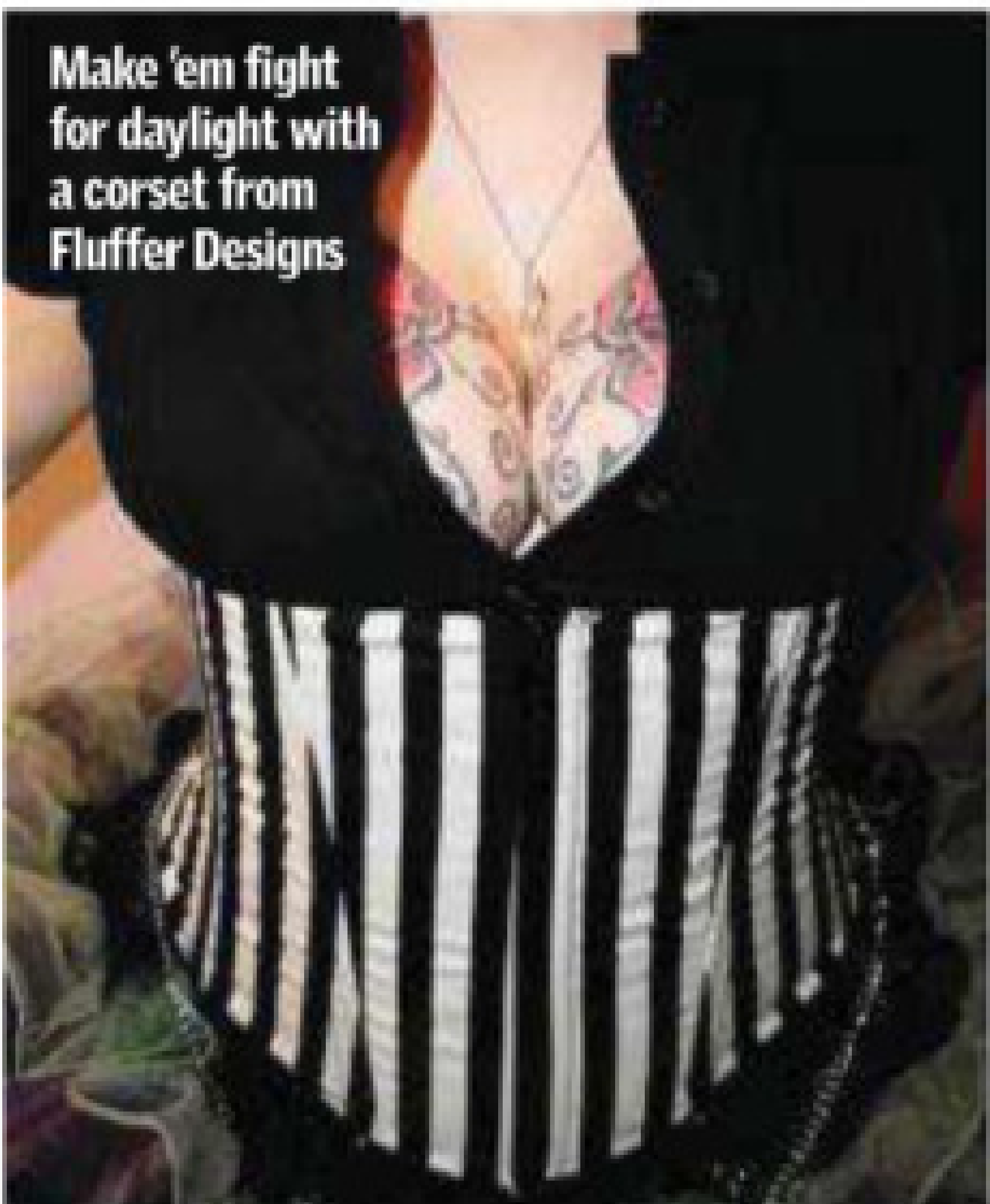
You lot showing off on our community page... Visit us at Your-bizarre.tumblr.com



Ruby Jewel's shoot with Albinojacks.com



Nymphomaniacness swaps heels for six-inch roofing nails



Make 'em fight for daylight with a corset from Fluffer Designs



'Dogging', by Steve Rolfe



Dirgette's morbid imagination is unleashed on this birthday cake



Timesdeadflowers' demonic watercolour



Nuke Blazer: Student nurse or annoying perv?

NEXT MONTH!

BIZARRE 192
ON SALE 31 JULY

ACTION STATIONS!

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- **HANGING OUT WITH THE TIGER LILLIES!**



PICTURE: SCOTTY JX

YOUR Body Art

PHOTOS **ESTER SEGARRA**

READER TATTS AND BODY MODS



▲ **JIM SETON**
LEEDS



WHO DID IT?

Phil Kyle at Magnum Opus Tattoo, Brighton.

WHAT IS IT? A large colour piece based on the *Tour de France*.

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE IT? I was bored at work and stumbled onto the Discovery website, where I saw a post from the makers of TV show *London Ink*, who were looking for people to be tattooed on film. I emailed them, and



two hours later I got a phone call asking me to go down to London. I'm a big cycling fan and I wanted something a bit different, so this tattoo shows the route of the first *Tour De France* and the winner, Maurice Garin. I also have British rider, Tom Simpson, as a zombie. He died during the 1967 race, because of booze and drugs, so we added a bottle of brandy and pills in there as well.

WHAT RESPONSE DO YOU GET?

Everyone's amazed by it, and I enjoy showing them all the little details like the number 13, because the tattoo was done on Friday the 13th.

MIRIAM MACKRETH ▼
NOTTINGHAM



WHO DID IT?

Brim at Nu Rose, Caerphilly, Wales.

WHAT IS IT?

A wheelbarrow, some carrots, a flowerpot and gardening tools.

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE IT?

I've got an allotment where I grow all kinds of produce, so I wanted a vegetable-growing theme. I've had my patch for about six years, but allotments are all the rage now!

WHAT RESPONSE DO YOU GET?

Everybody raves about it! They seem to like the strange subject matter and stand-out colours.

WHAT DO YOUR FAMILY THINK?

They have mixed feelings about it, but the veg I grow makes its way back to the family dinner table. It's a sort of cycle of life that involves them. They also respect that it's my body to do with as I please.

GOT ANY MORE PLANNED?

I wouldn't add anything to this piece as I really love it, but I may have another vegetable-related tattoo elsewhere. It'd be a toss-up between cauliflower, broccoli and tomatoes.





EMMA BETSON BLACKPOOL



WHO DID IT?

Chelsea at Hello Sailor Tattoo Studio, Blackpool.

WHAT IS IT?

Puss In Boots, the Three Little Pigs, the Three Bears, the Gingerbread Man, the witch from *Snow White* and Snow White herself.

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE IT? This is inspired by the inside front cover of my favourite childhood book. My dad used to read it to me at bedtime, and

I wanted the characters to look exactly as I remember them.

WHAT RESPONSE DO YOU GET?

We deliberately didn't use any outlines, so the images have a vintage feel. Because of this, people think the tattoos are old!

WHAT DO YOUR FAMILY THINK?

My niece and nephew think the tattoos look like they've been drawn on using crayons. I'm like a walking picture-book to them.

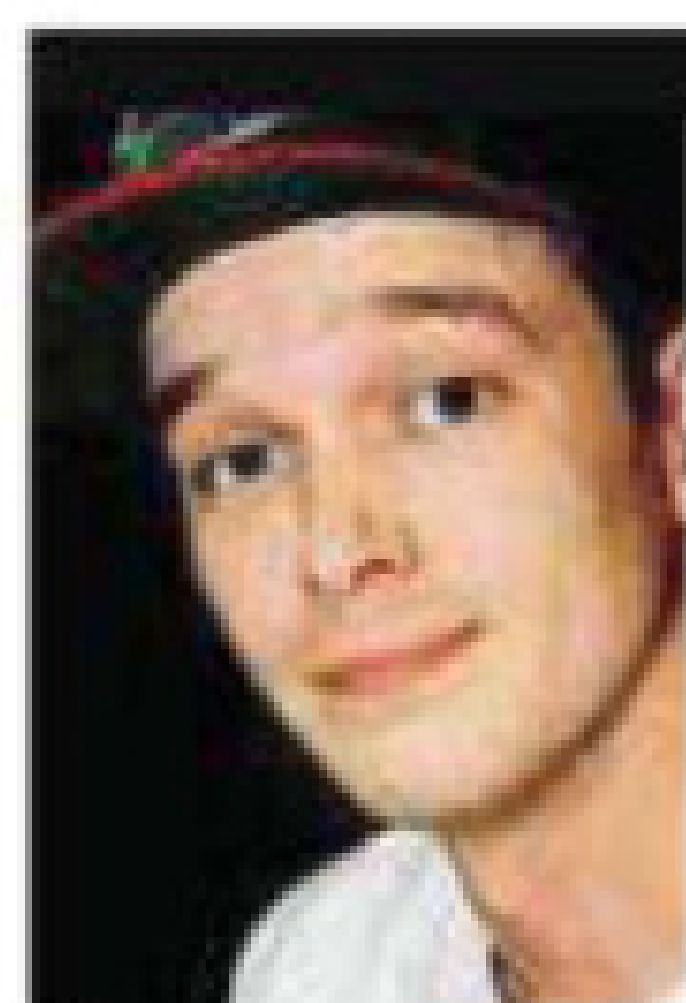
GOT ANY MORE PLANNED?

I'm adding the words 'Happily Ever After' on my shoulder, along with a few creatures, such as ladybirds and a squirrel, that also appear in the book.





CHRIS HALLAM ▼
CHELTENHAM



WHO DID IT?

Meehow at No Regrets Tattoo Studios, Cheltenham.

WHAT IS IT?

It's American rapper The Notorious B.I.G.

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE IT?

I'm a massive hip-hop fan. I grew up listening to American hip-hop, but now I listen to a lot more British and underground stuff. I added the words

'What's Beef', because it's the name of one of Biggie's songs about gang feuds. He was the biggest player in the East Coast hip-hop scene, and a massive icon. How did I feel when I found out he'd been murdered? Well, that's life!

WHAT RESPONSE DO YOU GET?

It's been positive. I thought more people would ask why I had it done. My brother's girlfriend said she couldn't imagine any girl enjoying being stared at by Biggie Smalls!

GOT ANY MORE PLANNED?

Maybe Rik Mayall and Ade Edmondson's characters from the TV show *Bottom*, inked on my bottom.



▲ JAY CRAWFORD
MANCHESTER



WHO DID IT?

Kerry-Anne Richardson at Cock A Snook Tattoo Parlour, Newcastle.

WHAT IS IT?

A heart in an old mining gas lamp.

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE IT?

My grandad basically lived down the mines, and he used to make the old filament lamps. The heart represents that mine will always be with him. It's quite clever because when I move my lower arm muscles, it looks like

the heart is beating. It was a conscious decision, but we didn't realise how well it would work.

WHAT RESPONSE DO YOU GET?

It's a quirky tattoo, and people are perplexed by seeing the heart in action!

WHAT DO YOUR FAMILY THINK?

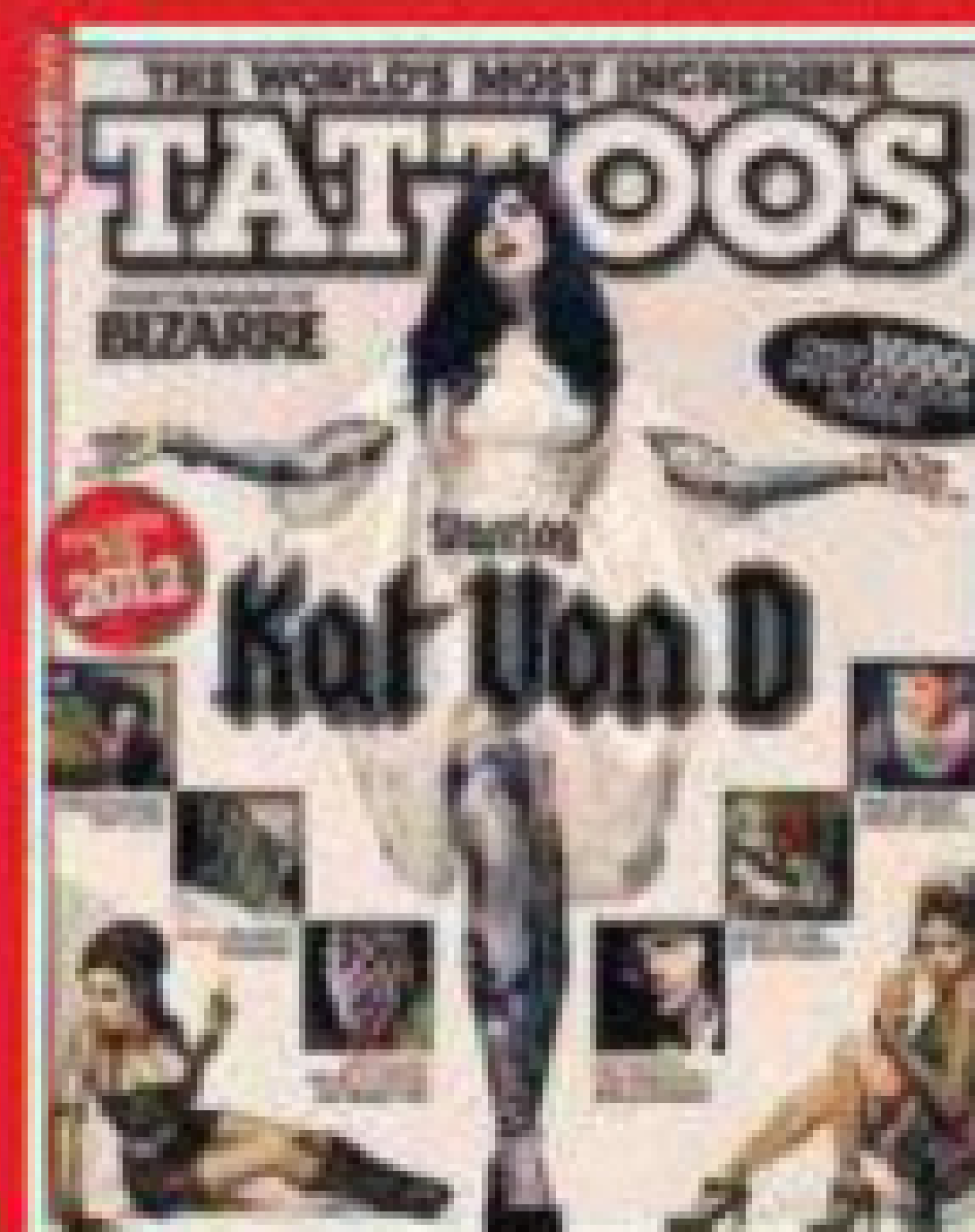
My mum says she'll disown me if I get my hands or neck tattooed.

GOT ANY MORE PLANNED?

I work in retail, so I have to be mindful of that, but I really want to get my palms done. The company I work for have a 'no tattoos' policy, but I was upfront about mine when I joined and they've been OK. I think I've kicked off a trend, as other employees have started going under the needle!

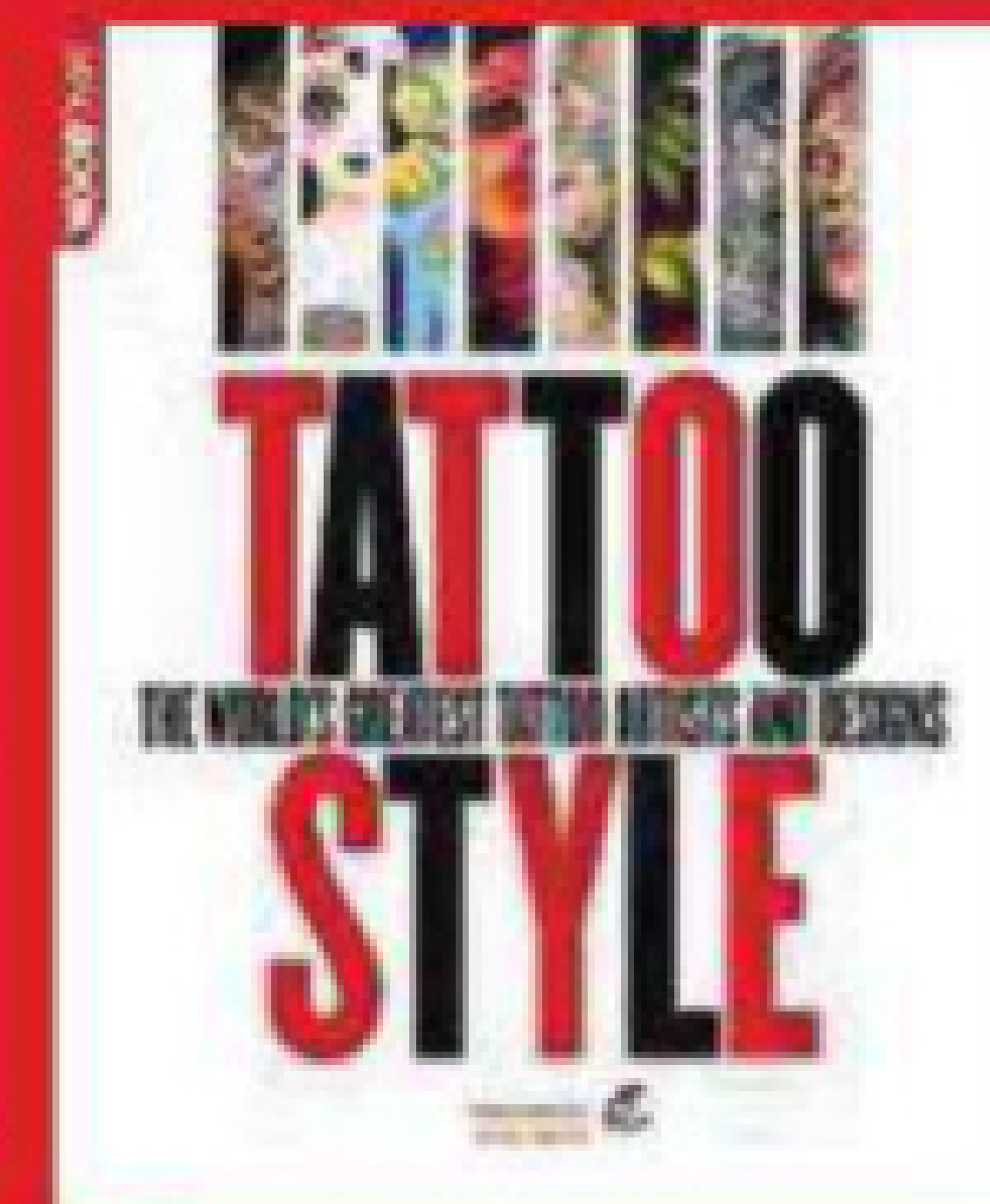
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Mario Barth
FOR **PETA**

Photo: Sabir Orr • Hair and makeup: Christine Copeland

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NOT MINK

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Readers' Art

YOUR DOODLES AND MASTERPIECES

OUR
FAVOURITE
THIS
MONTH



Fraser Morley
Brighton

"I'm one half of art duo Sadisa, with my pal, Dom Walter. This piece is called 'Blonde Maker' and I keep asking myself why the hell I made it. You can see it in motion at Tinyurl.com/blondemaker.
Sadisa.co.uk

Ryan Henderson
Edinburgh, Scotland

"I had been hurt by a particular person, and vocalised it by getting all those shit feelings across in this artwork. I completed it in about 15 minutes."
[Facebook.com/EverythingSayzoIllustration](https://www.facebook.com/EverythingSayzoIllustration)

Alex Harper
Cardiff

"I create fantasy and horror pieces, and special effects. Here are some mangled guts I made for a low-budget horror film project, using latex, sponge, cotton wool and fake blood."
[Facebook.com/Harpersfx](https://www.facebook.com/Harpersfx)

William Arthur
Wisconsin, USA

"I use expired ink from my tattoo shop to zombify public figures and celebs. With its zombie biker bars and pub crawls, Brew City in Milwaukee is a great source of inspiration!"
Turbomammoth.com



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ON P44

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ON P43

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**NIKY
HEARTS**

21, LIVORNO, ITALY

“There are two things I’d like to do before I die: travel by giraffe, and swim in a massive vat of mayonnaise. I absolutely love Marlene Dietrich because she was such an icon of beauty, and my top three bands have to be Iron Maiden, Pantera and Anthrax.”

**EMMA
HERON**

25, LOUGHBOROUGH

“I’ve got the body of a woman and the mind of a man. I once woke up with my postcode tattooed on my ankle, with no recollection of how it got there. I’ve done threesomes, foursomes, home-made porn, outdoor sex, toys, boys, girls... I could go on.”



**FAWNYA
FROLIC**

22, IRELAND

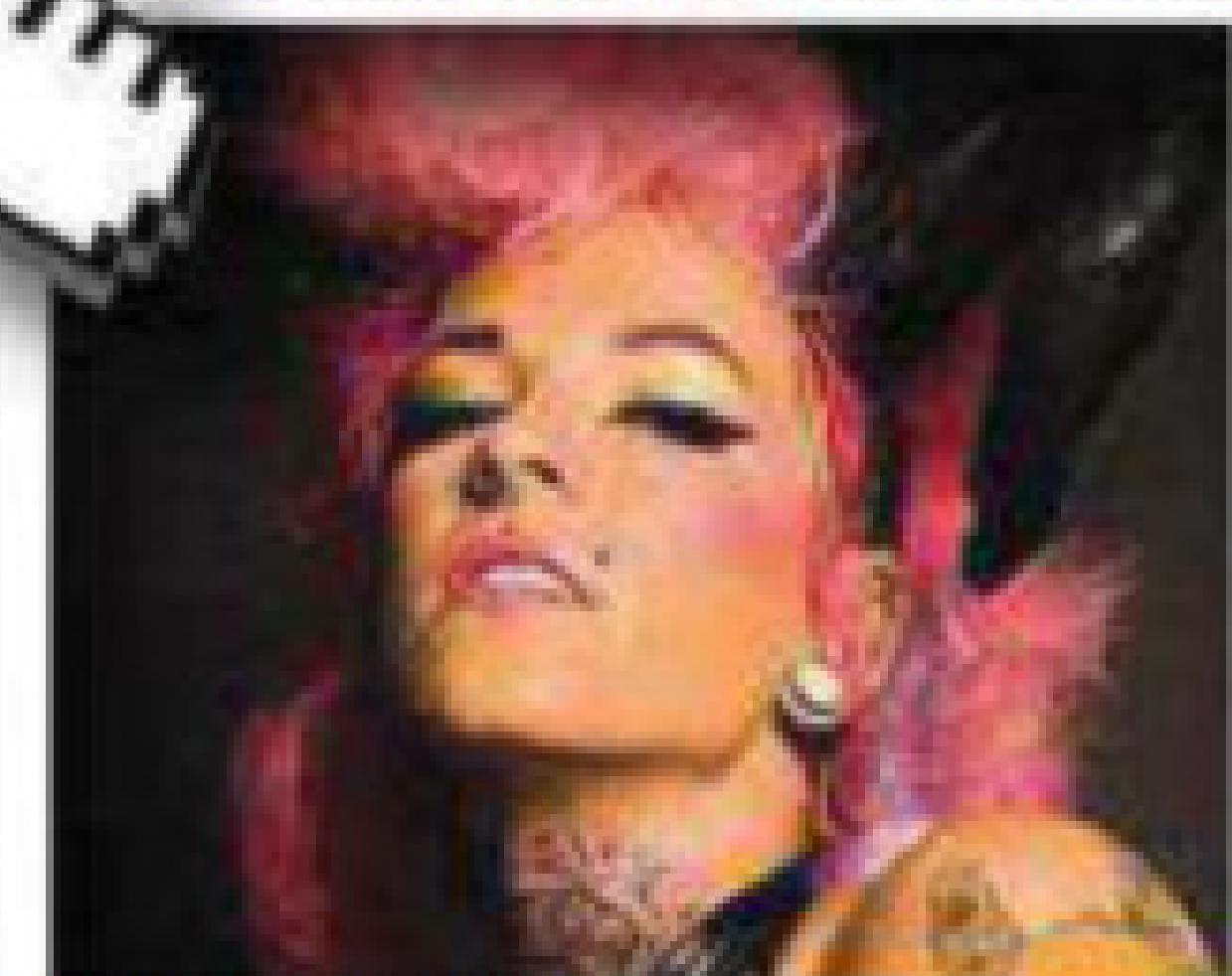
“My goal in life is to behave playfully and uninhibitedly. Once I went to eat out at a diner, wearing nothing but an uber-fluffy rabbit tail butt plug under my pink polka dot dress. Naughty! I love being nude outdoors. It feels so liberating.”



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BAMBU JESSICA

**BAMBU
JESSICA**

26, LAS VEGAS, USA

“I used to be a dom, and my ‘pet’ was a really kind, successful man who loved to be embarrassed. He paid me an outrageous amount to call him an “ass-face fucktard vagina” and throw my wine on him in public. I pretty much giggled the entire time.”

RED-HOT!

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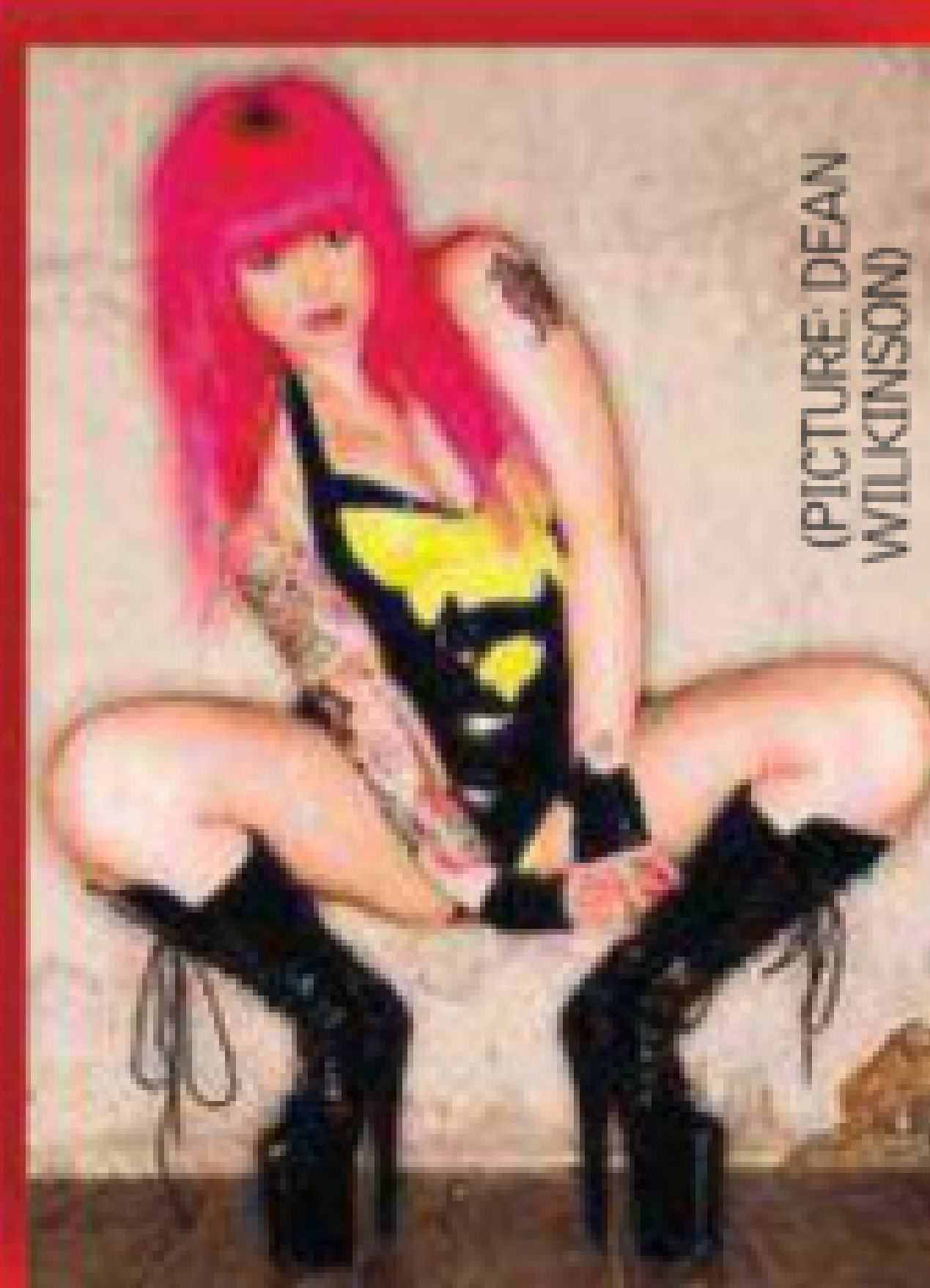
Sign up to UltraVixens.net and you'll not only be able to submit your snaps to these pages, but you'll also be in with a chance of getting on the cover of the magazine!

Each month we'll be scouring UltraVixens.net for new stars. When we've spotted 10 girls we like, we'll invite them to take part in a photoshoot in London, which will be printed in *Bizarre*. If any of the girls make the grade, they'll appear on the cover, just like PoppyThorn did (below)! Up for the challenge? Then sign up at UltraVixens.net and hit the 'Make Me A Cover Star' button on your profile page!



OUR NEW FAVES!

BIZARRE ART DIRECTOR DAVE KELSALL AND AUNTIE DEN JUDGE NEW ARRIVALS ON ULTRAVIXENS.NET



FELIX LIQUEUR

Auntie Den says: "Felix is no stranger to *Ultra Vixens*, and we've seen her photos get rapidly hotter every month. With her trademark pink locks, cheeks you just wanna pinch, and her love of skin-tight latex, the results are always fun 'n' flirty."

Dave Kelsall says: "I know why Den likes her so much... it's the cat tattoo on her shoulder, isn't it. ISN'T IT!"

LAUREN LASCIVIOUS

Auntie Den says: "Not afraid to experiment, Lauren's starting to shoot some 'out there' stuff. She's got a harder exterior than some of the other Vixens, which makes her stand out. She's also quite serious in her snaps, too, but that's her thing and I think it really works for her."

Dave Kelsall says: "Lauren's pictures are beautifully shot and well retouched. She looks magnificent."



KER-CHING!



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PICTURE: TARTAN HEART PHOTOGRAPHY

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Ultra Vixens, go to UltraVixens.net/live



PICTURE: POCX PHOTOGRAPHY; PORTIA VICTORIA, ULTRAVIXENS.NET/PORTIAVICTORIA

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RED QUEEN

VANESSA

Our flame-haired cover siren holds court on fantastic vs. flop movies, how to protect pets from bad weather, and dressing as a sex kitten. Do you ache to drown in her lake? Are you ready to get wet? Then dive right in...

WORDS ALIX FOX
PHOTOS CHRISTIAN SAINT
HAIR & MAKE-UP
VANESSA YANDELL
WARDROBE ABIGAIL
GREYDANUS

LAKE





Holy gloryholes, Bizarrelings! We can't believe it's been over a year since we last spoke to Vanessa Lake, the alt.model who has so much in common with a pair of robins' tummies (why? Because when you look at her, the first two words you think of are 'red' and 'breasts'). Better Lake than never, we suppose!

Vanessa last graced our cover in March 2011, and since then she's visited London for the first time; been to her first ever tattoo convention; was involved in a car accident on the Los Angeles

freeway which scared her "half to death" but thankfully didn't leave her irreparably broken; tried to learn Japanese using teach-yourself MP3s; and got a new dog, which makes "three rotten little Chihuahuas in all".

THE MUTT'S NUTS

Vanessa, 27, is a bit Honey-Nut-Loopy about her pooches. Her dream product would be "tiny umbrellas you can strap around dogs' waists to protect them from the rain while on walks". She also watched the film *Death Wish 2* - which stars Charles Bronson as an architect intent on wreaking revenge against five street punks who murder his daughter and housekeeper - and

despite declaring it to be "an awful, awful movie - really bad in every way", she still managed to glean dog-related inspiration from a particular scene: "There's a two-second shot where the main character stands by a wig store, and it gave me the idea of making hairpieces for my little ones!" Chi-WOW-hua...

Since she doesn't own a TV, Vanessa downloads a lot of flicks, and is quite the cinema buff. Her favourite film is Sam Raimi's *Army Of Darkness*, which sees lead actor Bruce Campbell mistakenly zapped back in time to 1300 A.D. to battle hordes of animated skeletons. While she's glued to scenes, she likes to snack. "As a treat, I like to watch movies while eating some oatmeal

fudge or Sprinkles gourmet cupcakes – they recently installed a vending machine outside their Beverly Hills bakery, so you can order frosted deliciousness 24-7!” she says.

We suspect it’s no surprise that Vanessa’s preferred bake boutique also sells sugar-free cupcakes... for dogs.

FROM NOUGHT TO SIXTIES

Vanessa is also obsessed with Elizabeth Taylor’s part-model, part-call-girl character in *Butterfield 8*. “Liz Taylor starred in that movie in 1960 – the beginning of an era I love more than any other,” she enthuses. “In fact, one of my all-time precious photographs of me has a 1960s feel to it. It’s a black-and-white shot called ‘Mon Petit Chaton’, by Beguiling Images. I’m wearing some adorable kitty latex accessories by Abigail

Greydanus, and the atmosphere is simple, with nothing but a sparkly chair against a blank wall. To me, it’s reminiscent of Julie Newmar playing Catwoman in the original *Batman* TV series.”

Vanessa hastens to add that “Christian Saint, who shot my latest *Bizarre* cover, has an incredible eye too, though – he’s the tits!”

Having studied hair and beauty at the Paul Mitchell cosmetology and beauty school in San Diego a few years back, Vanessa is a pro at creating her own looks for photoshoots. She’s crafted hairstyles and done make-up for countless celebrities at the Grammys, Golden Globes and Oscars, and mixes her own bespoke formula to dye her locks that trademark killer copper. She even won a ‘speed perm’ competition while training: “We were given a miniscule amount of time to section hair and wrap it

around rods in order to prepare it for curling,” she says, “and I took the prize thanks to my quick little fingers!”

So, can Vanessa let *Bizarre*’s female readers and wannabe-models into any cult cosmetic secrets? “Find a hair colour that compliments your skin tone as it makes a huge difference in photos, wear sunscreen every day, and when you’re doing a conditioning treatment, make sure your products are geared towards moisture, not protein. Too much protein makes hair brittle.”

You don’t want protein in your hair, Vanessa? No worries. We’ll just spunk on your magnificent chest instead. Sorry, we know that joke is crude – please don’t set the dogs on us! →

Dive into Vanessa’s Lake at Ispyvanessalake.com.

Dip your toes into her thoughts by following her on Twitter @VanessaLake



RED QUEEN

**“I WISH YOU
COULD GET TINY
UMBRELLAS
FOR DOGS!”**



RED QUEEN



**“I WAS IN A
CAR ACCIDENT
THAT SCARED
ME HALF
TO DEATH”**

RED QUEEN

**“I LIKE TO
WATCH MOVIES
WHILE EATING
SOME OATMEAL
FUDGE OR
SPRINKLES
GOURMET
CUPCAKES!”**





**“I HAVE THREE ROTTEN LITTLE
CHIHUAHUAS”**



RED QUEEN

Storemags

**"I WON A
'SPEED-PERM'
COMPETITION
THANKS TO MY
QUICK LITTLE
FINGERS!"**



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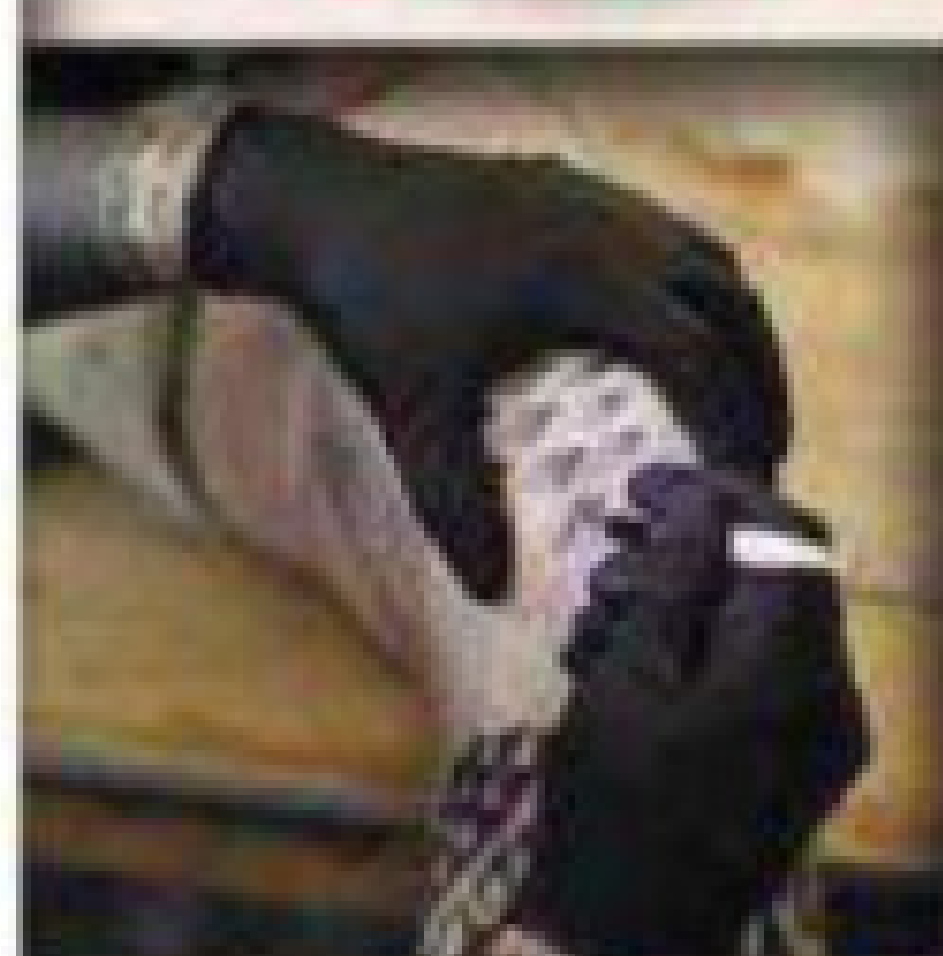
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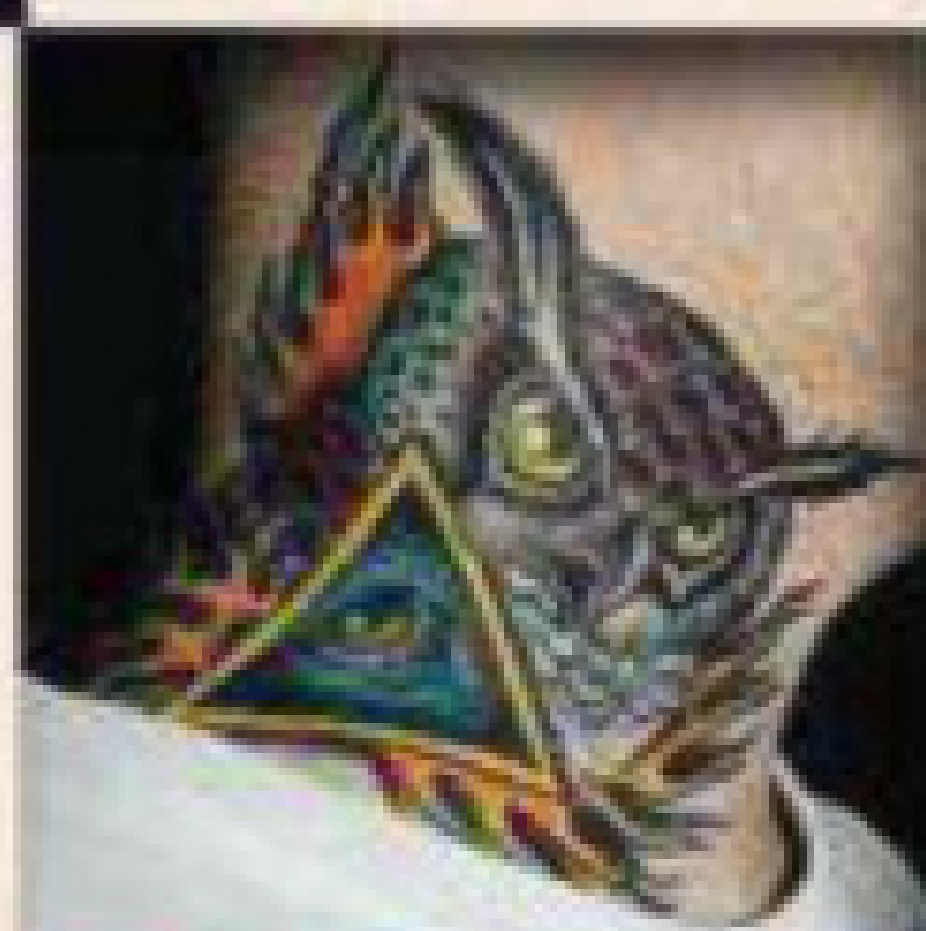
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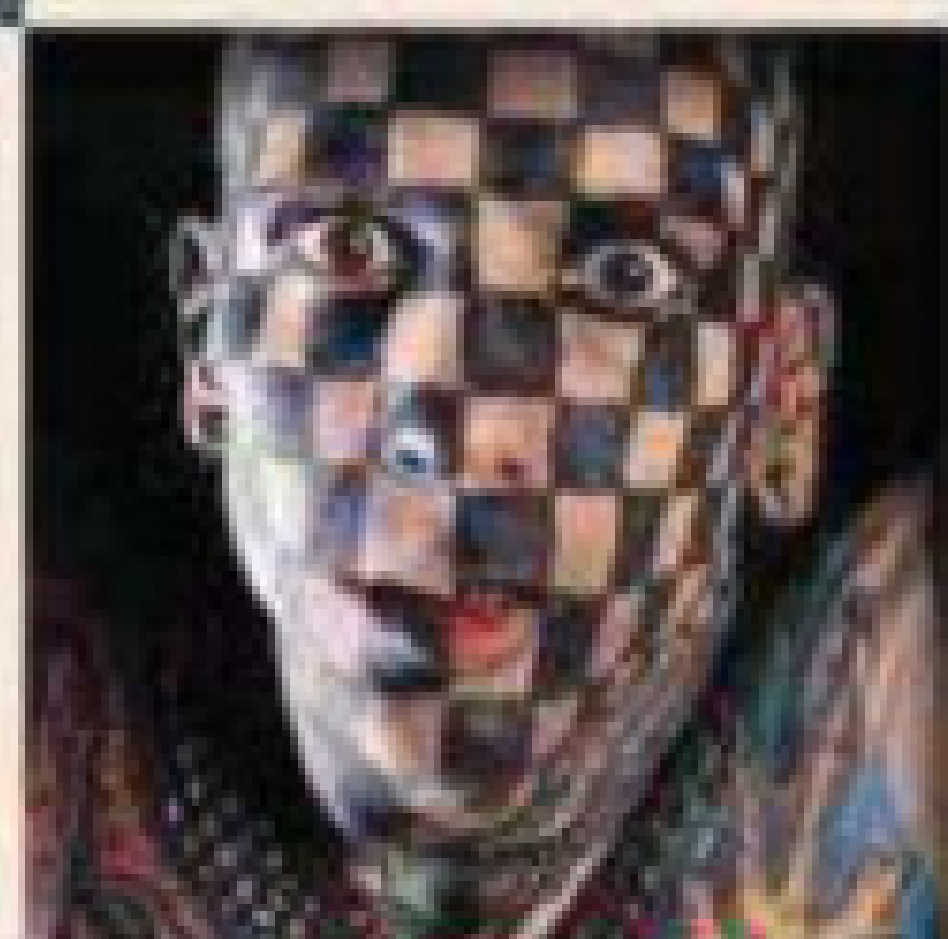
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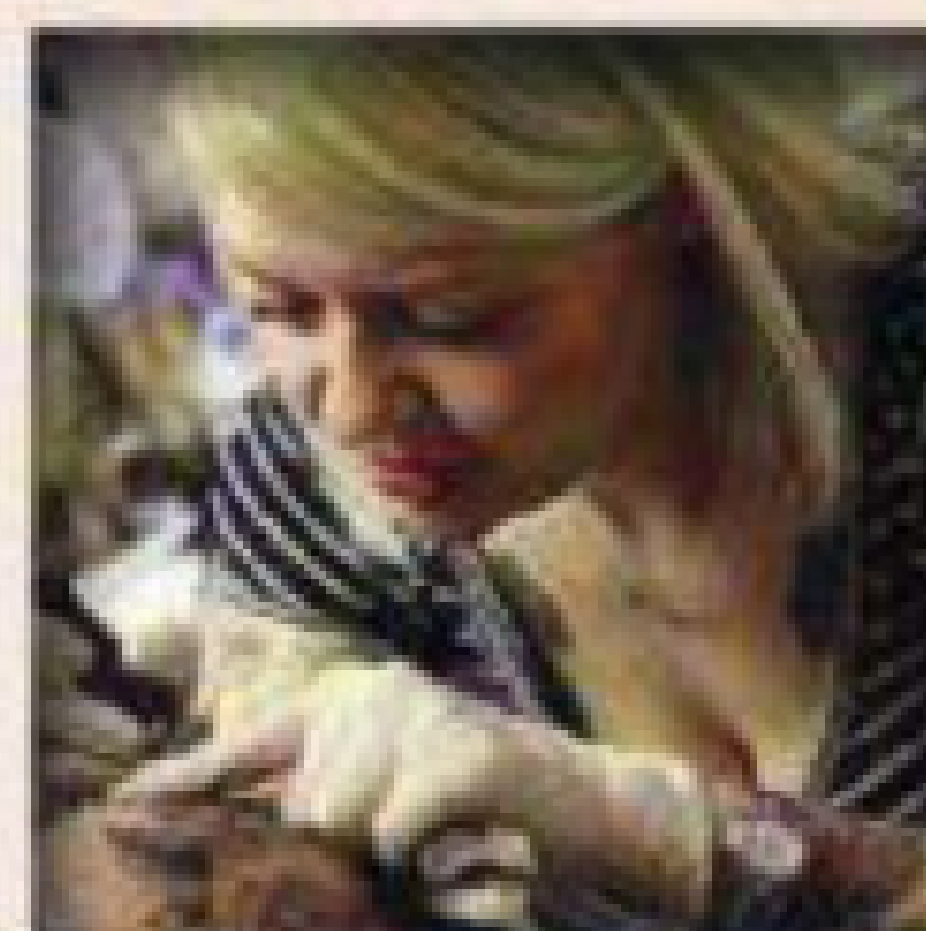
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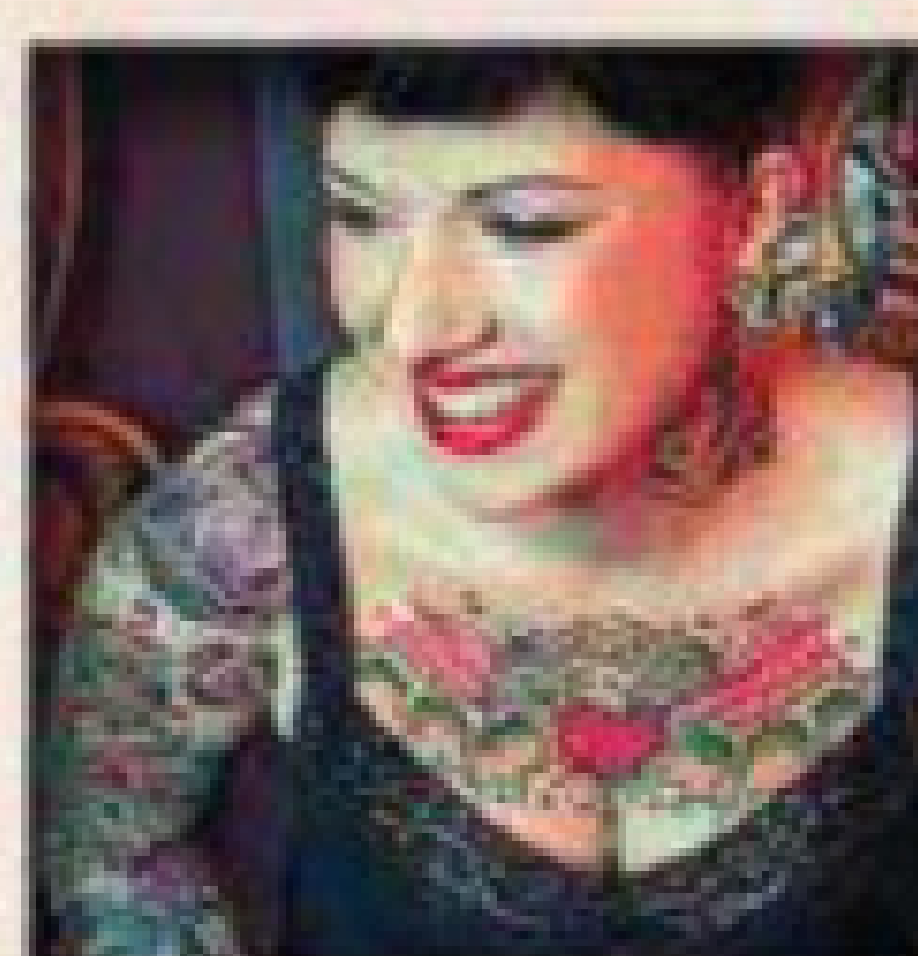
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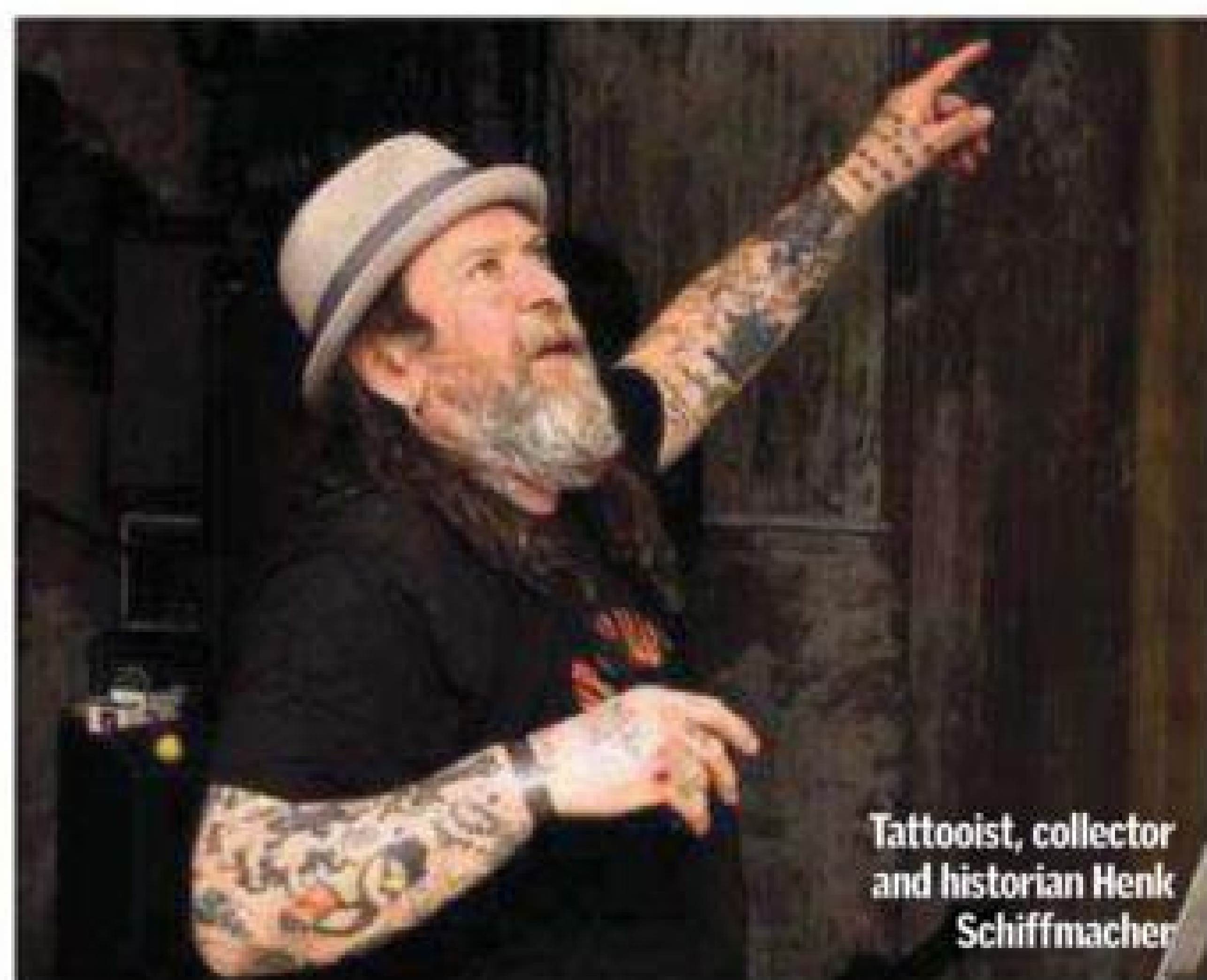
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You may have seen his flash and drunk the rum bearing his name, but how much do you know about **Sailor Jerry**? To find out why his legacy endures, *Bizarre* spoke to Amsterdam Tattoo Museum founder, Henk Schiffmacher



Tattooist, collector
and historian Henk
Schiffmacher

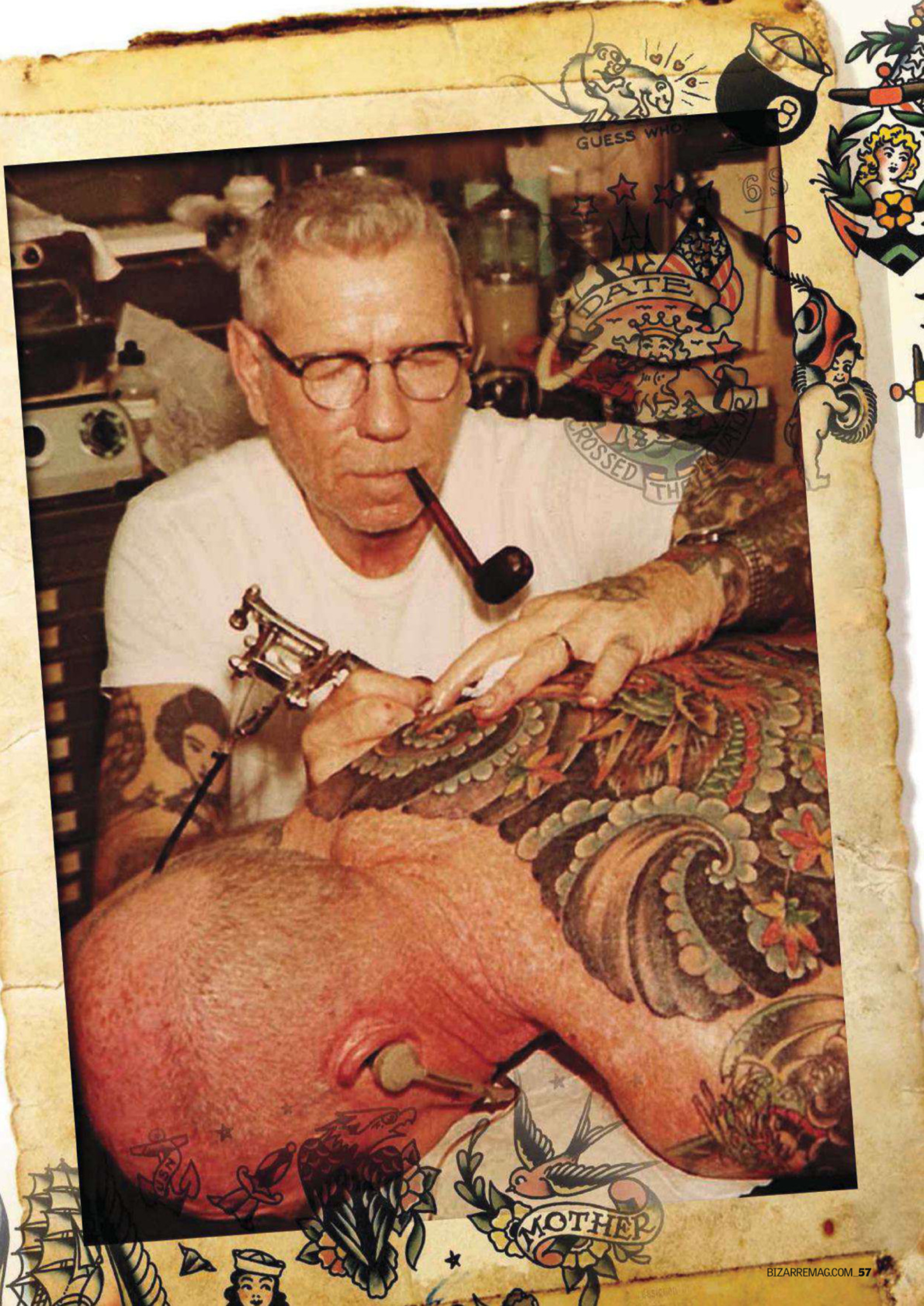
WORDS ELEANOR GOODMAN
PHOTOS SAILOR JERRY UK

Once upon a time, rowdy sailors arriving in Honolulu, Hawaii, wanted three things: to get stewed, screwed and tattooed. Working in Chinatown's Hotel Street district, Sailor Jerry helped with the latter, inking boldly-lined designs with an Asiatic feel. He was so renowned that artists still cite him as an influence, and his flash remains popular. "Our tattoo community wouldn't be this big if it wasn't for Sailor Jerry," says Henk Schiffmacher, inker and founder of the

Amsterdam Tattoo museum, who recently curated an exhibition of Jerry's work at London pop-up bar Hotel Street. "I've known of Sailor Jerry for as long as I've been in the tattoo business. We pay tribute to his legend every single day."

IN THE NAVY

Norman Collins was born in 1911, and raised in California, USA, where his dad nicknamed him 'Jerry' after the family's stubborn mule. By his early teens he was bumming around the country on freight trains, tattooing people along the way. He soon met Chicago artist Gib 'Tatts' Thomas, who took him on as an apprentice. →



TATTOO LEGEND



Next, the budding inker enlisted in the Great Lakes Naval Academy, sailing through The Far East, which was the beginning of a life-long interest in its culture. Then in the late 1930s, he settled in Hawaii to tattoo. At the time, the islands had only been part of the United States

out from under him, which led to some extended shore leave, so he sometimes tattooed up by the air-force and army base in Wahiwa on soldiers' paydays. He also opened a shop called Tom & Jerry, with a friend. At this time, downtown Honolulu was buzzing with bars and brothels.

a smart artist knows how to draw things as simply as possible, so the communication is clear. And Jerry had a very clean style."

"OUR TATTOO COMMUNITY WOULDN'T BE THIS BIG IF IT WASN'T FOR SAILOR JERRY" HENK SCHIFFMACHER

for around 40 years, so few Americans had visited. That all changed when Japanese forces bombed Pearl Harbor on 7 December 1941, and thousands of sailors descended.

Jerry re-enlisted in the Navy, but ended up in the Merchant Marines, navigating supply ships through Japanese waters. Three ships were shot

It cost \$3 to get screwed and \$3 for a tattoo – the most popular of which was a broken heart.

"In tattooing, we use a simple iconography," says Henk. "Everybody knows that a four-leaf clover means luck, the anchor means hope, the cross means religion, and so on. Tattooing is a form of nonverbal communication, and

MONKEY BUSINESS

When WW2 ended, Jerry returned to find his partner gone and his shop wrecked, so he set to work cleaning it up. The tattooist had also brought back a pet monkey called Romeo, and the story goes that it consumed most of a bottle of ink, so Jerry started roughing it up, and it shat diarrhoea all over a sailor dressed in whites. Jerry also claims he inked Romeo, which is the basis for his design of a monkey with 'Aloha' written across his bum, where the arsehole forms the 'o'.

"I have the monkey tattooed on my arm," says Henk, who's visited Jerry's old haunts and tattooed sailors in Hawaii. "It's a common thing among the collectors of tattoo stuff to have Sailor Jerry's monkey somewhere. Sometimes, I think we *are* Sailor Jerry's monkeys!"

INKED IN A FLASH!

Discover the meanings behind Sailor Jerry's recognisable designs



ANCHORS

The anchor is the most stable thing in a sailor's life, keeping them grounded



THE GOLDEN DRAGON

Sailors who served at an Asian station got dragon symbols as mementos



HEARTS

A sign of love, hearts often feature names of those held dear



The monkey incident was typical of Sailor Jerry's sense of humour. In Hawaii, there's an annual parade for King Kamehameha, who unified the islands. One year, Jerry caused controversy by messing with the tradition. "He tied a salami and two coconuts around the waist of the King Kamehameha statue, and so early in the morning everyone woke up and saw these enormous private parts!" guffaws Henk.

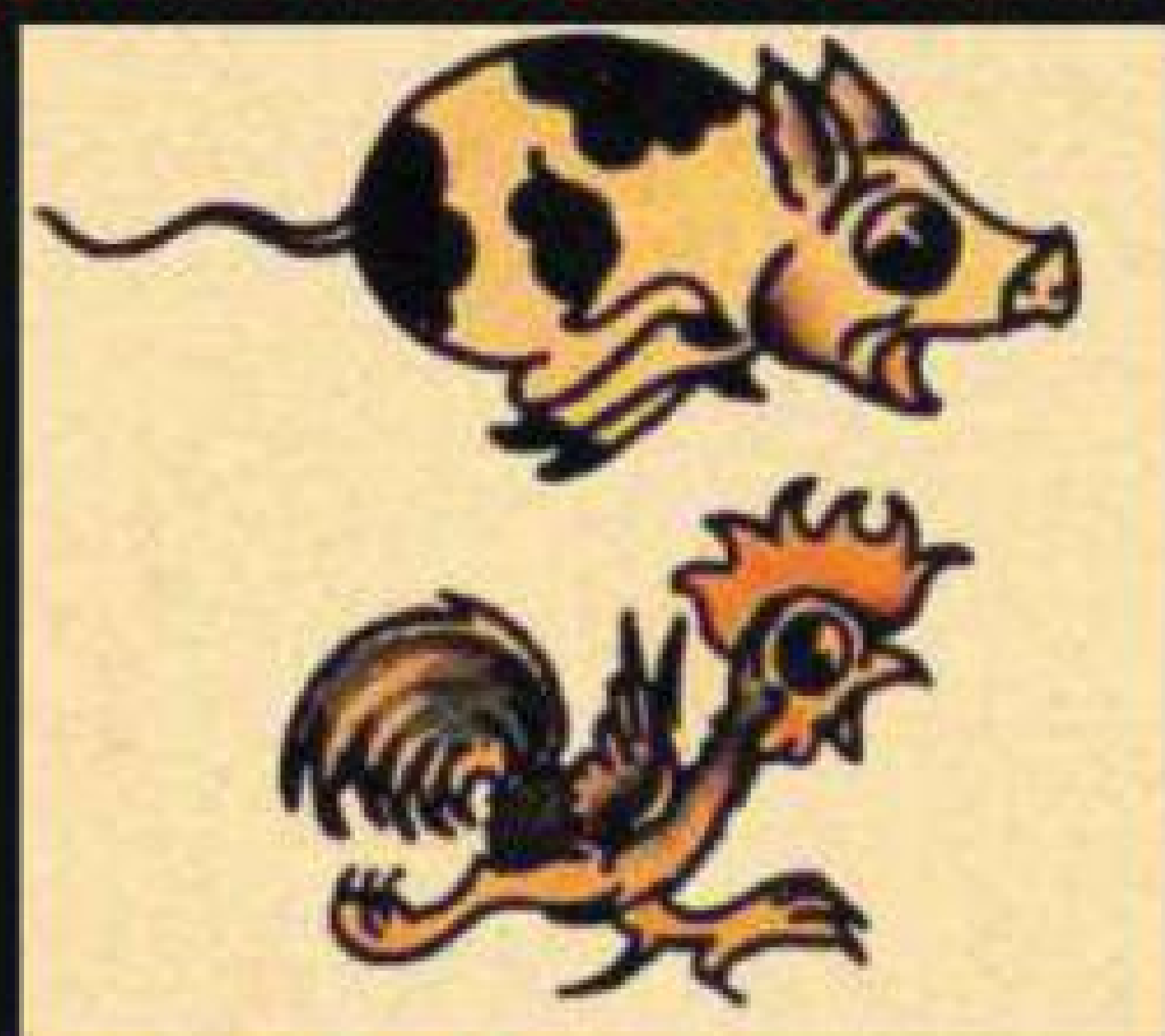
Jerry quit tattooing in the early 1950s in protest against taxation, but got back into it in the 1960s, and soon opened the Sailor Jerry Tattoo Shop, where there was a serious side to his work. He experimented with new pigments and machines, and was one of the first to introduce sterilisation.

"It was not because he wanted to wipe out communicable diseases, but because the product would be better – the colour would be nicer, and it would heal more easily," says Henk. "In those days, nobody would sterilise. They'd use a steriliser to heat a dumpling or a pie instead of treating the needles; they'd just have something in the shop to make people think, 'Oh, what a responsible person this is,' and it was all a load of crap. It was a different approach to now."

Jerry also passed his techniques on to Don Hardy and Mike 'Rollo Banks' Malone, who'd go on to be famous names in their own right.

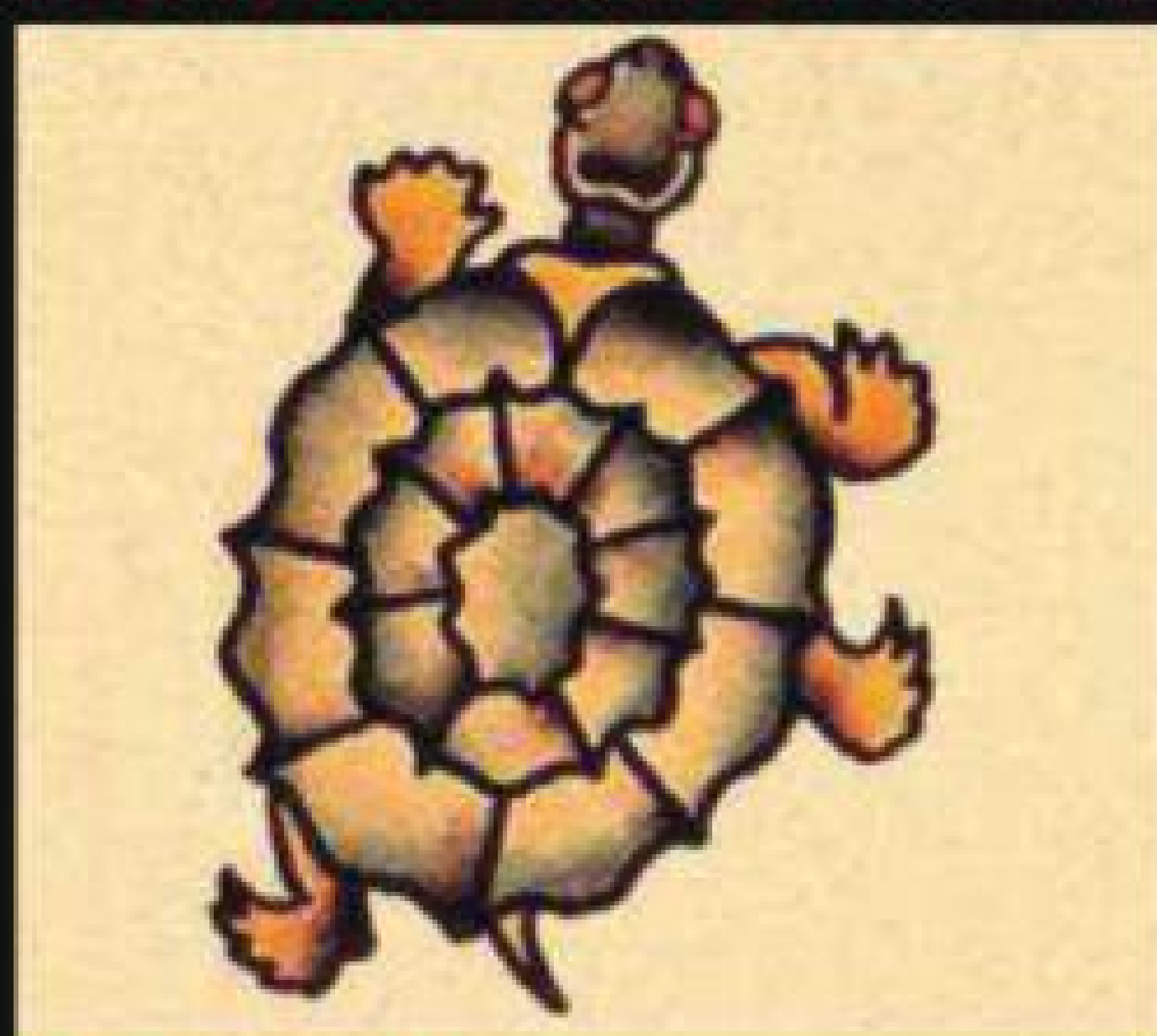
JAPANESE DREAMS

The tattoo legend had been corresponding with Japanese artists for years, and in the 1970s →



PIG AND ROOSTER

Animals on ships were kept in cages used as flotation devices in a wreck



SHELLBACK

Once a sailor crossed the equator, he earned the right to get this tattooed



NAUTICAL STAR

This represents the North Star, which sailors used to keep them on course



SWALLOW

They're associated with the idea of returning, and taking souls to heaven

TATTOO LEGEND

he invited tattoo master Kazuo Oguri to stay. "It wasn't easy for a Japanese person to go to Hawaii in those days – especially with a man like Sailor Jerry," says Henk, "First he had to make a couple of things up with the Japanese before he could deal with them. So he took the little tattoo master on a touring boat and sailed over the sunken remains of the Arizona (the ship that went down during the Japanese attack), and said to him: 'This is Pearl Harbor, and you'd better remember this!' And then they had a friendship."

Henk describes Jerry's tattoo style as "very expressive", and says his hula girls were reproduced all over the world. And while it's true that his way of colouring and drawing was influenced by those working in The Land Of The Rising Sun, he also influenced them. "He made it possible for the Japanese to get tattooed," explains Henk. "If they got tattooed in their own style, it was too gangster-related, but the Western



Sailors would visit hookers and bars before going under the needle.



"IN THE MORNING, EVERYONE WOKE UP AND SAW THESE ENORMOUS PRIVATE PARTS!" HENK SCHIFFMACHER

style was OK. A more Disneyland type of dragon was more acceptable than their own."

Jerry sadly died in 1973, but his designs are still inked internationally, and even Henk says he might have more. "I'm considering putting

'Aloha' letters on my ass, like Romeo, because there's still some space there!" he laughs.

While some see the commercialisation of Jerry's name as a negative development, Henk sees it as the ultimate tribute; a way of keeping

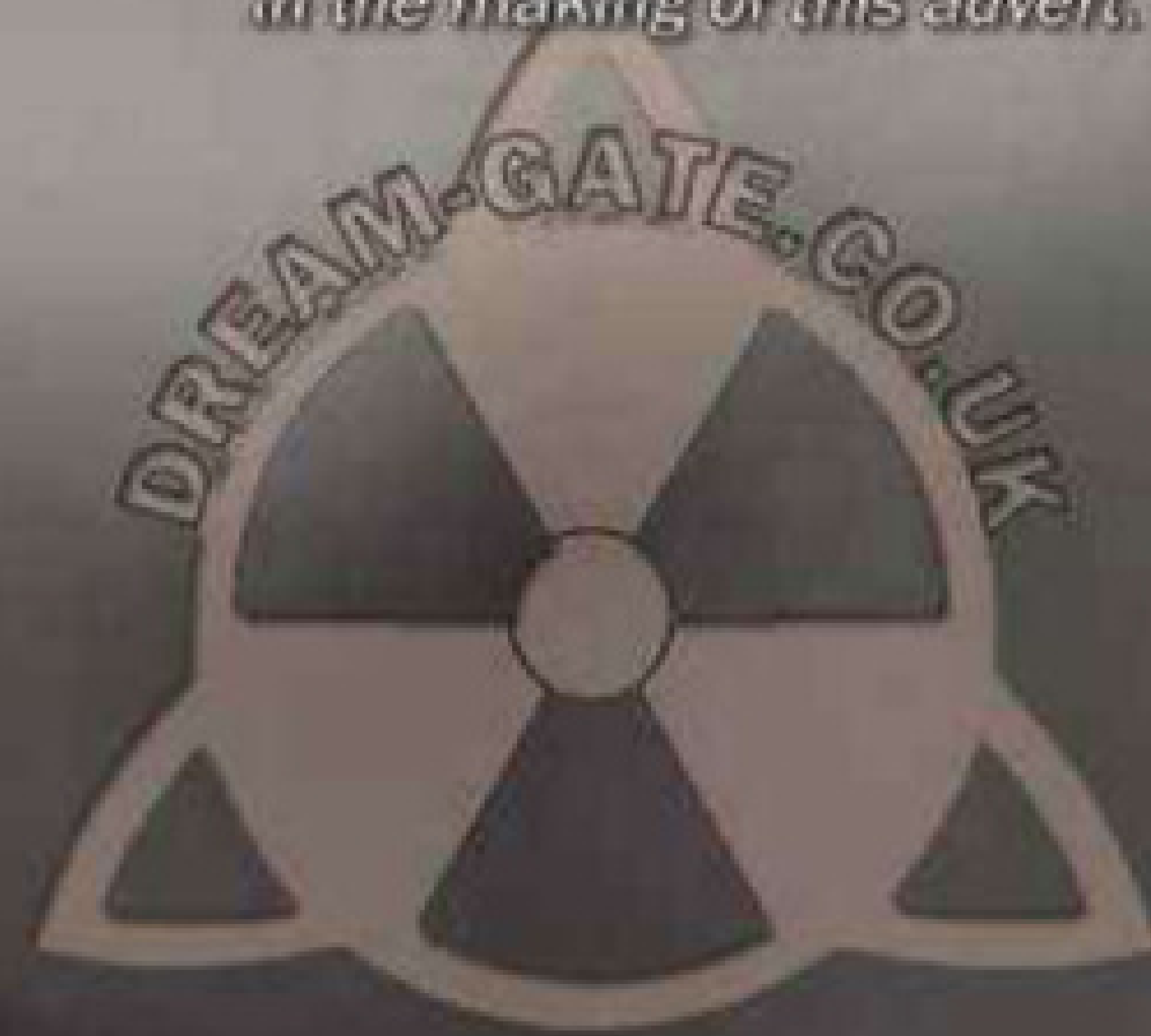
him alive. "Thank god for rum!" he bellows. "It's strange when you think about that.

About 40 years after you die, you're still able to communicate with the tattoo world, through art. Some people say, 'Well, they should never have made a brand out of it.' Bullshit! Bullshit. As a tattoo artist, you want to leave your mark in a good way, like a graffiti kid. And so if there's a bottle with your name on it, that's fantastic. And if it tastes good, then that's even better!"

See Sailorjerry.co.uk and Amsterdamtattoomuseum.com

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APRIL FLORES

WORDS AMANDA COBAN



BIG! BOUNCY! BREATH TAKING! BEAUTIFUL!

Adult actress April Flores fills our hearts with lust, and our pants with love-juice! We caught up for a chat about her hot flicks, favourite chicks and getting kicks!

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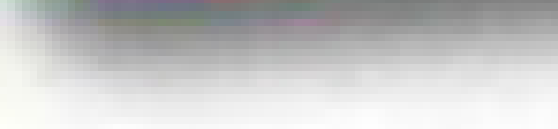
Hot damn! It's been three long years since *Bizarre* last had the pleasure of the perfectly plump April Flores gracing our cover, and boy, have we missed her!

Nothing puts a smile on our face like this giggling, jiggling, big-booty beauty. In addition to her mouth-wateringly good looks, April is a confident and accomplished pro-feminist adult film star *and* a total sweetheart to boot. What more could you ask for? No wonder she's won award after award, and is such an inspiration to so many women worldwide.

April kindly took some time out from her busy schedule to answer some of our questions, as well as some of yours! So get ready, as we talk about sex toys, the motherfuckin' Snoop Dogg, and smothering bouncy breasts in pies!

Hello April! You were on the cover of our August 2009 issue (*Bizarre* 152). What have you been up to since then?

Wow, I can't believe it's been that long! Time goes by too quickly. The last three years have been busy, but fun! I've been working closely with my husband, photographer and director →



THE BIG ISSUE!



APRIL FLORES

Carlos Batts, by branching out and building our own independent film label, C. Batts Fly. We don't have to follow rules of who to cast, what sexual acts to include, or compromise our ideas and vision. Our films feature sexual, body and ethnic diversity.

In 2010 I won Heartthrob Of The Year at the *Feminist Porn Awards* (an annual event run by an adult store in Canada, which celebrates filmmakers and performers who "are making erotic movies and media that focuses on genuine pleasure, marginalised communities, and hot, engaging sex")! That was so important to me because I consider myself a feminist, and I've always wanted to be a part of feminist porn.

I also wrote the foreword for a book called *Curvy Girls: Erotica for Women*, which is an all-inclusive anthology of voluptuously erotic stories celebrating the sensuality of larger women and full-figured female sexuality.

On the performing end of things, I'm part of an improvised comedy show in Hollywood called *Glory Stories*, where I tell a story and then people act it out.

"I MET A WOMAN WHO SAID SHE LEARNED HOW TO GIVE BLOW JOBS BY WATCHING MY MOVIES. THAT WAS SUCH A HUGE COMPLIMENT!"

It's scary and challenging to try to entertain an audience, but I love seeing their reactions and getting an adrenaline rush. It's exciting, and definitely something I'm going to pursue.

I was also involved with a commercial directed by Estevan Oriol (an LA-based Latino photographer and director, known working with hip-hop artists), in which I had a brief scene with

Snoop Dogg. As we're both from Southern California, his music soundtracked a huge part of my life, so I was really nervous about meeting him. I had to sit on his lap while we were shooting our part, and I said, "I'm sorry if I'm too heavy." He replied, "Nah baby, you're good", which was so nice.

In 2009, you released the world's first realistic and fully penetrable plus-size sex toy, called April Flores' Voluptuous CyberSkin Pussy. In April, popstar-turned actor Mark Wahlberg was seen leaving a shop with one, while in Miami filming Michael Bay's action flick *Pain And Gain*. How did you feel about that?

I'm proud that April Flores' Voluptuous CyberSkin Pussy was the first toy moulded from a larger woman! I think plus-sized women are greatly under-represented in the adult toy market, and it was a step forward in showing the value of creating products that represent body diversity.

When I first saw those pictures of Mark, I thought someone had Photoshopped my toy in as a joke.

It was only after I Googled "Mark Wahlberg sex toy" that I realised the pictures were real! It was surreal to see my toy being used in such a mainstream project. I read somewhere that it'll be used for a torture scene... they should have hired the *real* me for a *pleasure* scene!

Either way, it's great exposure for me and the toy to a whole new audience.

Have you got any more sex toys planned?

I released a new toy earlier this year, called the Wildfire Celebrity Series April Flores BBW CyberSkin Pussy Stroker, which was also



Fabulous Flesh!

April tatts inspired by *Bizarre's* pin-up pics



moulded from my body. Since I don't have a penis, I'm not sure how it feels to use it, but I'd imagine it's amazing because of the thick-ribbed love tunnel with raised nubs at the end, and the fleshy folds outside.

Do you have a favourite sex toy of your own?

My favourite sex toy is the mind-blowing "personal massager" Hitachi Magic Wand, and it's popular with so many of my friends and peers as well! Every time I want to have an intense, extreme orgasm I pull out my Magic Wand, plug it in, and get to work! It doesn't take too long before I'm screaming in pleasure.

What's your favourite film you've starred in so far?

Dangerous Curves, by HeartCore Films. I have such an attachment to it because I came up with the concept *and* wrote it. It was shot in beautiful outdoor settings, and included a threesome at the base of a gorgeous waterfall (April with lesbian stars Jiz Lee and Syd Blakovich).

More importantly, each scene ended with the woman's orgasm, not the man's as is the typical finale of most adult films. I wanted the focus to be on the woman's pleasure.

As well as that threesome, you've shot several girl-girl scenes in the past few years, such as those with Claire Adams in *Rough Sex 2* and Adrianna Nicole in *Her Little Secret*. Do you still like shooting with men, too?

Yes, I have a great time shooting scenes with men because I really enjoy giving a good blow job, and I love the intensity their male energy adds to the scene and our sex. I also shoot with people who have a variety of gender identities.

"I SHOT A COMMERCIAL WHERE I HAD TO SIT IN SNOOP DOGG'S LAP!"

Who's your favourite girl in the erotic world?

It's difficult for me to narrow it down to only one woman, so I'll share the characteristics of all my favourite. They're strong-minded and love sex and performing for the camera – as do I – but they're also business-minded, highly driven, and genuinely sincere.

How often do fans approach you? And does the attention ever bother you?

I mostly get approached by fans at events such as release parties, conventions, gallery openings and signings. It doesn't bother me at all – in fact, I love it! They feel they already know me and, in a huge sense, they do. In adult films, I express myself on a raw, honest and vulnerable level, which to me is my art. By sharing that part of me with the viewer, fans really do know an →



intimate part of me that most people save for the bedroom with their chosen partners. I think my fans appreciate that, and therefore they're always super-sweet when approaching me.

I recently met a queer man who told me my work as a plus-sized Latina had positively affected him more than any other performer, which I thought was amazing. I also met a woman who said she learned how to give blow jobs by watching my movies. That was a huge compliment!

Masuimi Max told *Bizarre* she has a 'WTF' folder to file away the freaky fan emails she gets. What's the weirdest piece of fanmail you've ever received?

Having a WTF folder is actually a great idea! I don't have one, although I have received my fair share of WTF emails. However, I do have a folder where I keep emails from people who send messages about how my work has helped them feel more comfortable and confident about their own bodies. Those messages are so important to me because it's my main goal to show other curvy women and the world that fat women are sexy, desirable and beautiful, and can also express their sexuality.

**"I REALLY ENJOY GIVING
A GOOD BLOW JOB"**

We know you love to giggle! When was the last time you laughed peeing-your-pants hard, and why?

Yeah, it's true, I love to laugh! I recently did a shoot for my new film *April Flores World*, which will be coming out this summer, where my friend and I threw pies at each other. We were on a crowded street on April Fool's day, smothering pies into each other's faces and onto our breasts.

Since we were in Hollywood, and people here are used to seeing crazy things being filmed, we didn't get too much attention. Although someone drove passed and yelled, "What porno are you shooting?" It felt so strange and embarrassing and silly to be covered in pies in such a public place that all I could do was laugh.

Women admire you for your confidence with your curves. Is there someone that inspires your refreshing, don't-give-a-damn attitude?

Wow, thanks – that's such a huge honour! I'm inspired by my husband who always encourages me, and my family's strength that's ingrained into



"MY FRIEND AND I SMOTHERED PIES ONTO OUR BREASTS!"

my whole being. This may seem a bit weird, but I'm also inspired by negative people. Every once and a while, I'll be in the presence of someone who's just wallowing and stuck in their own negativity and self-pity. That's an example of the way I don't want to be.

Can you give aspiring plus-sized models any little golden gems of advice?

I'd advise them to shoot as much as they can, because practice makes perfect. I'd also tell them to remember that details are essential. It's important to be aware of aesthetics and how you're presenting yourself. I love getting dressed up, so hair, make-up and wardrobe are huge factors when I'm planning a shoot.

But most important of all is having a good attitude. People like to work with those who arrive on time and have a good mindset during the shoot. Also, try not to be too hard on yourself if you don't like the way the pictures come out. Remember that it takes many, many frames to arrive at that one perfect photo.

What have you got planned for the future?

This month, I'm participating in the first ever BBW FanFest in Las Vegas, from 13-15 July. There will be over 50 models ready to meet their fans, and I'm nominated for their Icon Award!

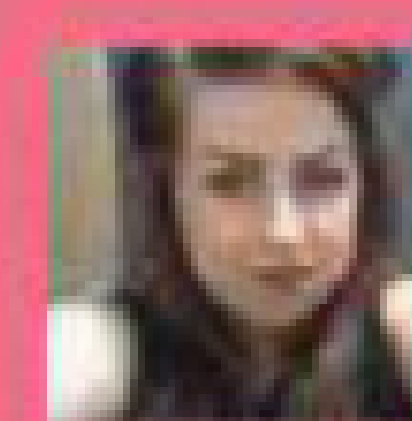
Recently, I've been thinking about how great it'd be if I could direct my own erotic film. I came up with an idea that I really hope I can make a reality. As a performer, a dream project is any that challenges me to grow as a performer and also pays.

In addition to that, Carlos and I have been compiling photos of me since we met 12 years ago until now. Our goal is to eventually create a book called *Fat Girl*. The pictures vary in style, from fashion, to documentary, to casual, to erotic, to deeply personal.

Starting a clothing line is something I still have planned for the future, but I have learned that it takes a lot of time and funding to get off the ground. I'm a firm believer in things happening when they are supposed to happen. **Buy April's films at Tlacult.com and Carlosbatts.com, and check out her sex toys at Fattyd.stockroom.com. Learn more about the BBW FanFest at BBWFanFest.com**

Ask April!

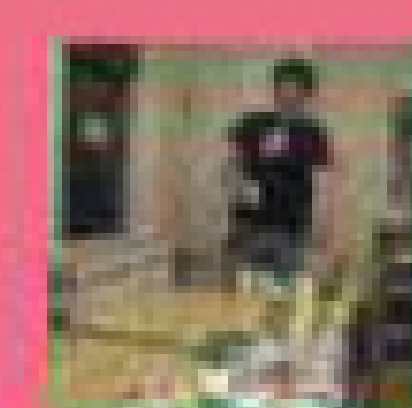
You probed the adult actress, and she answered! Get involved with future interviews by checking our Facebook page at Facebook.com/bizarremagazine



Ms Flores, we live in a society where we're governed by our body shape.

As a beautiful curvy lady, do you ever face discrimination or criticism in everyday life because of your size? Nicci Auld

“Whenever I feel the glare of someone who's disturbed by me, I stand taller and strut harder! Being fabulous in the face of their critical eye is the biggest “fuck you” I can convey.”



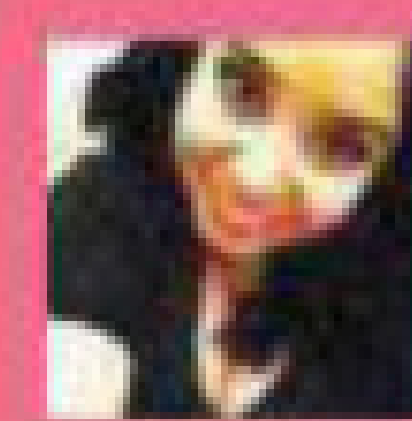
Hello Ms Flores. What's your favourite hangover cure? Hair of the dog, a fry-up, or something else? Shane Callaghan

“I really wish I had a cure! Hair of the dog seems to work, but the only thing I've learned cures hangovers is time. Usually, a full day of being sick and hating my choices from the night before is finally followed with some relief.”



People always go on about your size! Who cares? You're still a normal person! :-> My question is... what's the worst job you've ever had? Lisa Sylvester

“The worst job I've ever had was being a receptionist. I felt much more degraded then than I ever have performing in erotic films.”



How's your stage career going? I recall when we met after an *Ed Fox Vol 2* book signing, you invited me to a show you were in, but alas I couldn't make it. I hope it's going where you want it to go :) Kitt Kat

“It's been going great! I really love the thrill I get from being in front of an audience.”



You've somehow ended up on death row – what would you request as your last meal? Kate Washford

“That's a great question! I'd request milanesa with black beans and rice. Milanesa is a thin slice of meat that's breaded and fried. My father used to make this for special occasions... even now, my mouth is watering.”



Are you happy being Bizarre's token plus-size model, who makes them feel fine filling their magazine with skinny girl after skinny girl after skinny girl? Dominic Griffiths

“Calling me a token *anything* is totally inaccurate, because I've worked really, really hard to get where I am in my life and career. I thank *Bizarre* for giving me an invaluable international platform to reach many plus-sized women, conveying my message that they're sexy and desirable. While you may see my appearance in *Bizarre* as 'token' I know for a fact that for some women, it's been life-altering.”



OFF SCA

**Feast your eyes
on the super-sized
fetish chicks who
are serving up
extra portions
of sex appeal...**

WORDS **STEPHEN DAULTREY**

For most catwalk models, being told you're too fat would be like getting smacked in the face with a wrecking ball. But when Kellie Kay was told to shed some excess weight, the plus-sized fashion model merely shrugged her curvy shoulders, thought "meh", and piled on an extra 350lb instead.

"I was modelling for plus-size clothing stores from the age of 16, but when I turned 20 I hit 200lb and I was told I was too fat," recalls the bubbly Ohio, US, native, now 28. "But I wanted to be in a nudey magazine and, after posting scantily-clad pictures of myself online, I was contacted by an adult website. Within a month I was doing photoshoots, and appearing in America's large women magazine *BODacious*."

Kellie Kay is what's known in the adult world as an 'SSBBW' (super-sized big beautiful woman), which is a size up from the more familiar 'BBW' (big beautiful woman). There's an ongoing debate about how heavy someone needs

THE LES

to be to earn the label, but generally anyone over 350lb qualifies – although height also determines how ‘fat’ or curvy a woman looks. As SSBBW superstar Violet James puts it, an SSBBW is “when they’re too big for cinema seats and too heavy for bathroom scales”.

SUPER-SIZE ME

At 5ft 5in tall, Kellie currently weighs in excess of 550lbs, making her one of the biggest adult stars on the internet. And we don’t just mean literally ‘big’ either – her site SSBBWKellieKay.com attracts tens of thousands of visitors from all corners of the globe.

According to BBW-lover ‘Stu’, who runs several sites in the US – including BigHotBombshells.com, for which his wife is a model – BBW and SSBBW are the third most popular niches in adult entertainment after straight and gay porn. “I get members from the US, UK, Japan, Canada and Germany,” he says.

Yet, despite a global audience, most SSBBW models are American. “I think it’s more acceptable in the US to be big, proud and beautiful,” says England’s own Brutal Super Sized Goddess (BSSG). “In the UK it’s all hush-hush...”

Stu’s sites cater for a variety of size-related fetishes, from women jiggling their bits to men being smothered beneath sun-eclipsing butts, and this is typical of the SSBBW scene. Heavyweight women and their fans (sometimes called Fat Admirers or ‘FAs’) are spoiled rotten when it comes to naughty fun. →



HEAVY WEIGHT HOTTIES

Want to see more of the
SSBBWs featured here?
Visit these great sites
for queen-sized action...

VIOLET JAMES

VioletJames.com
SSBBWRoommates.com

Age 28

Weight 450lb+

Height 5ft 7in

"What makes SSBBWs sexy?

Well, flesh is sexy, and when you
have more to grab, feel and look
at, it just gets better."



SEXY MAE

SexyMaeBBW.com

Age 40

Weight 350lb

Height 5ft 2in

"My fans appreciate my
confidence, as well as
admiring my womanly
shape. My curves always
draw people's attention!"



'BIG CUTIE' ASH

Ash.bigcuties.com

Clips4sale.com/48701

Age 28

Weight 550lb

Height 5ft 7in

"My belly is my fave body part.
I used to be sad that my ass
was small in comparison, but it's
turning into a nice little bubble."



"My main focus is on overeating and
'gaining' (eating to get heavier), and I'm pretty
good at it!" declares Kellie. "The proof is in my
large and proportional weight gain. My fans like
to watch me eat huge portions of food, and the
faster, harder and greedier, the better."

Fellow SSBBW 'Big Cutie' Ash, one of Kellie's
housemates, was introduced to modelling after

frequenting special BBW parties in America,
and now explores many aspects of fat fetishism
on her own website. "I really enjoy playing with
my rolls and jiggling them on camera, and I've
recently done exercise videos that were really
exhausting but fun," she enthuses. "But mostly
I'm just sitting in my bedroom eating a sandwich,
or talking about how fat I am."

FOOD GLORIOUS FOOD

In order to maintain her current weight, Kellie
says that she eats 10 meals a day, six of which
are large. "I love fresh foods from a garden, and
I eat a lot of pasta, breads and potatoes, and lots
of dairy such as ice cream, milk and cheese,"
she says. "I know fast foods are great for weight
gain, but I prefer to do it old-school by eating
large quantities of delicious foods. I lift weights,
too. I want to keep my womanly
shape and I do this by keeping
somewhat fit."

Kellie also enjoys the
feeling of piling on the

"I REALLY ENJOY PLAYING WITH MY ROLLS AND
JIGGLING THEM ON CAMERA" 'BIG CUTIE' ASH

Kellie loves
to eat "large
quantities of
delicious foods"



At 550lb,
Ash definitely
weighs in as
an SSBBW



ANASTASIA VANDERBUSTAnastasiavanderbust.c4slive.comUltimateBBW.com**Age** 26**Weight** 365lb**Height** 6ft+**"Once I made another SSBBW model worship my sweaty feet after being at work all day."****THE BRUTAL SUPER SIZED GODDESS**Clips4sale.com/store/45326**Age** 21**Weight** 386lb**Height** 5ft 5in**"I never realised that people would love watching me annihilate my slave so much. It's a massive confidence-booster!"****KELLIE KAY**SSBBWKellieKay.comClips4sale.com/21475**Age** 28**Weight** 550lb+**Height** 5ft 5in**"I'm not just acting for money - this is my lifestyle. I'm just lucky I get to share this with people and make it my career."****BIG HOT BOMBSHELLS**BigHotBombshells.comSupersizedbombshells.com**Age** Too many models to mention!**"I've filmed some intense squashing, involving three girls on one guy, and over a ton of weight!" says webmaster Stu.**

pounds. "Being the biggest is a big turn-on," she purrs, "but I also love the actual feeling and softness of the stretching, growing, skin as it's filling with fat. Curves and softness have been feminine qualities since the beginning of time, so why not add more to them?"

Yet in today's weight-obsessed society, it can be hard for the general public to swallow the fetishisation of gaining, which can lead to health problems. Ash prefers not to talk about it for fear of being misunderstood, but Kellie insists that she looks after herself.

"There are health concerns, but they can be avoided with activity and by eating the right foods," she says. "I love going to new doctors because they always assume I must be sick and unhealthy, but once they run tests and see that I'm in great health, they almost don't believe it!"

But few sexual kinks get as much negative publicity as 'feederism'. An offshoot of 'overeating', this usually involves a dominant 'feeder' making their partner gorge on gluttonous portions of food. Such fantasies weren't helped by the 2005 serial killer flick *Feed*, in which an evil dude murdered chicks by force-feeding them. Nor by the recent case of New Jersey's Donna Simpson, who, along with her fiancé, invited fetishists to buy her food in a bid to top the scales at 1,000lb (the couple are now separated).

SSBBW star Violet James stresses that feederism is just kinky fantasy fun, and can be enjoyed by couples at home. "Feeders aren't usually abusive monsters, coercing women into gaining another 20lb, like they're always described in the media," she says. "I have a normal, healthy sex life that sometimes involves fetish play, and I think that's a pretty typical bedroom experience for anyone."

HUMAN PANCAKES

As well as devouring videos of their super-sized heroes, many SSBBW lovers like to be physically flattened by them, which is termed 'squashing'. Ash says squashing isn't always about domination, and some fans merely like →



Violet James reads up on feeding herself up

Ash plays with her excess flesh



to feel the softness of an SSBW's flesh on top of them, but others crave submission.

BSSG was introduced to squashing through her fiancé (now her slave). She took to it because it channelled her natural "dominant streak". Folk who want to watch squashing in action can visit the couple's online video store, as they've shot a number of "damn hot" clips that include face-sitting and butt-dropping, where BSSG lands her entire weight on her sub with sternum-shuddering impact.

"My fiancé has seen a lot of videos, but he felt that models rarely lay into the male slave

enough," she says. "When he found out I was so brutal in bed, he knew there was a gap in the market for someone as ruthless as me. Our best-selling clip is 'Premiere', where I butt-drop his chest hard and smother him mercilessly with my goddess belly. The activity I love the most is belly slapping my slave in the face. To me, it's a form of punishment, whether he's tapped out too early in a video and disappointed me, or just pissed me off at home!"

Weighing in at 380lb, BSSG describes her slave as "tiny" compared to her all-conquering frame, yet she's careful that their play never results in injury. "We believe that being in a committed relationship and practising this daily are our greatest safety precautions," she says. "I've crushed and smothered him so many times that I know his limits inside out. A few of our close friends know what we do, and they are really supportive of us. However, we wouldn't tell our families because they'd automatically assume that we're doing porn!"

Anastasia Vanderbust, 26, also enjoys overpowering wimps with her gargantuan bulk. At 6ft and 385lb, the Florida-based model is also popular with giantess fetishists, where admirers drool over her towering height. "I thoroughly enjoy walking all over men, known as trampling, which is every girl's fantasy," she giggles, "I also

"I LOVE THE FEELING OF THE STRETCHING, GROWING SKIN AS IT'S FILLING WITH FAT" KELLIE KAY

BSSG shows her slave who's boss...



... and gets an unusual type of fingering



SUPERMODELS

THE **BIG**
ISSUE!

Pretty in purple,
Ash loves her curves

“FAT PREJUDICE IS A REAL
FORM OF OPPRESSION”
‘BIG CUTIE’ ASH

love squashing them until they tap out because they can't take any more of my heavy weight on their body and face. It's a real thrill holding the power and feeling in charge.”

BIG IS BEAUTIFUL

Yet despite the popularity of the SSBBW scene, Stu of BigHotBombshells.com says it's still hard for guys to admit to liking large girls. “I've always found bigger women attractive, but in this society it's not easy to come out of the closet and admit that,” he says, despondently. “It's easier to come out and say you're gay, and gay people have come a long way in being accepted. The fat world has to go down a similar road.”

Meanwhile, the girls say modelling has helped them to become more confident.

“Growing up, I used to be embarrassed of my height and insecure about my weight,” confesses Anastasia. “Over the years, I've learned to embrace myself as a woman as a whole. It's great that the *world* is slowly learning to embrace us. It takes mad guts, especially in this industry, to show then what we've got.”

Violet James agrees that she wants to challenge preconceptions: “Fat people have to put up with bigotry everywhere, every day. When I got into modelling, I was interested in redefining who people think are allowed to be sexy.”

But while Ash says that her work makes her feel feminine and hot, she believes that fat prejudice needs to be tackled on a wider scale – and she's willing to try.

“I don't think that fat porn is the way to break down prejudice,” she admits. “What I'm producing is for my friends to enjoy in intimate, private moments. Fat prejudice is a very real form of oppression. I think it deserves a much more public, political approach. And I'll be there fighting, too. I'll just be wearing more clothes and holding a sign instead of a cheesecake.”

SEXUAL SELECTION

THE

WORDS: ELEANOR GOODMAN
PHOTOS: NATACHA MERRITT

BIRDS

When it comes to sexytimes, photographer Natacha Merritt reveals...



StoreMags.com

A self-portrait
of Natacha Merritt

AND THE BEEES

... that humans and plants aren't so different

An orchid of the
genus *Dendrobium*

Lycosid tapetum, the eye structures of a wolf spider



An anonymous couple



Natacha Merritt was on a biology field trip in California, lying on a sunny cliff side, when she became overwhelmed by nature and started touching herself.

Her study group had gone to observe blue-flowered shrubs called *Lupinus albifrons*, which provide food for the caterpillars of endangered Mission blue butterflies, and their complexity made her moist.

"Because of this plant and this butterfly, no-one can develop this whole region of California, so it's a big controversy," explains Natacha. "So the class would go away and I'd masturbate in the bushes. It just happens... But it was the larger picture of being attracted to these plants, now that I really understood their story."

SEX EDUCATION

To find out why Natacha pants over plants and gets touchy-feely about feelers, you need to understand her background. As a teenager, she freely photographed her sex life – blow-jobs,

masturbation and all – and collected the images into a book called *Digital Diaries* when she was 21. She went on to work with Cirque du Soleil, helping to create the multi-media for their erotic show, *Zumanity*. Then she decided to "reinvent" herself, and turned to university. She didn't know what to study, but soon hit upon biology.

"I was having a lot of fun, with a great sex life, and I just wanted to capture the foreplay," recalls Natacha. "But in my first botany class I immediately understood *why* I like erotica."

The class was a sexual evolution revolution. Bear with us – here comes the science bit: "Every time the biology got really interesting, it had to do with the idea of 'sexual selection'," explains Natacha. "In short, Darwin proposed his theory of *natural* selection, for how most traits across all species had evolved. You could understand them in terms of competition and survival of the fittest. But then his dilemma had to do with peacock feathers. Why have these huge, heavy, cumbersome things evolved? Why have they been maintained in a population? And it's because the

females *chose* them. I thought, 'Whoa, this is really interesting!'"

This is the theme of Natacha's latest risqué book, *Sexual Selection*. Naked self-portraits and pictures of her fellow students are set against plant and insect organs, mirroring each other's sexuality. The alluring curves of a girl's vulva match the wet contours of an arachnid's genitalia, while spread-eagled legs bend at similar angles to pink petals – invitations for the exchange of genetic material, AKA fucking.

SPIDER SENSES

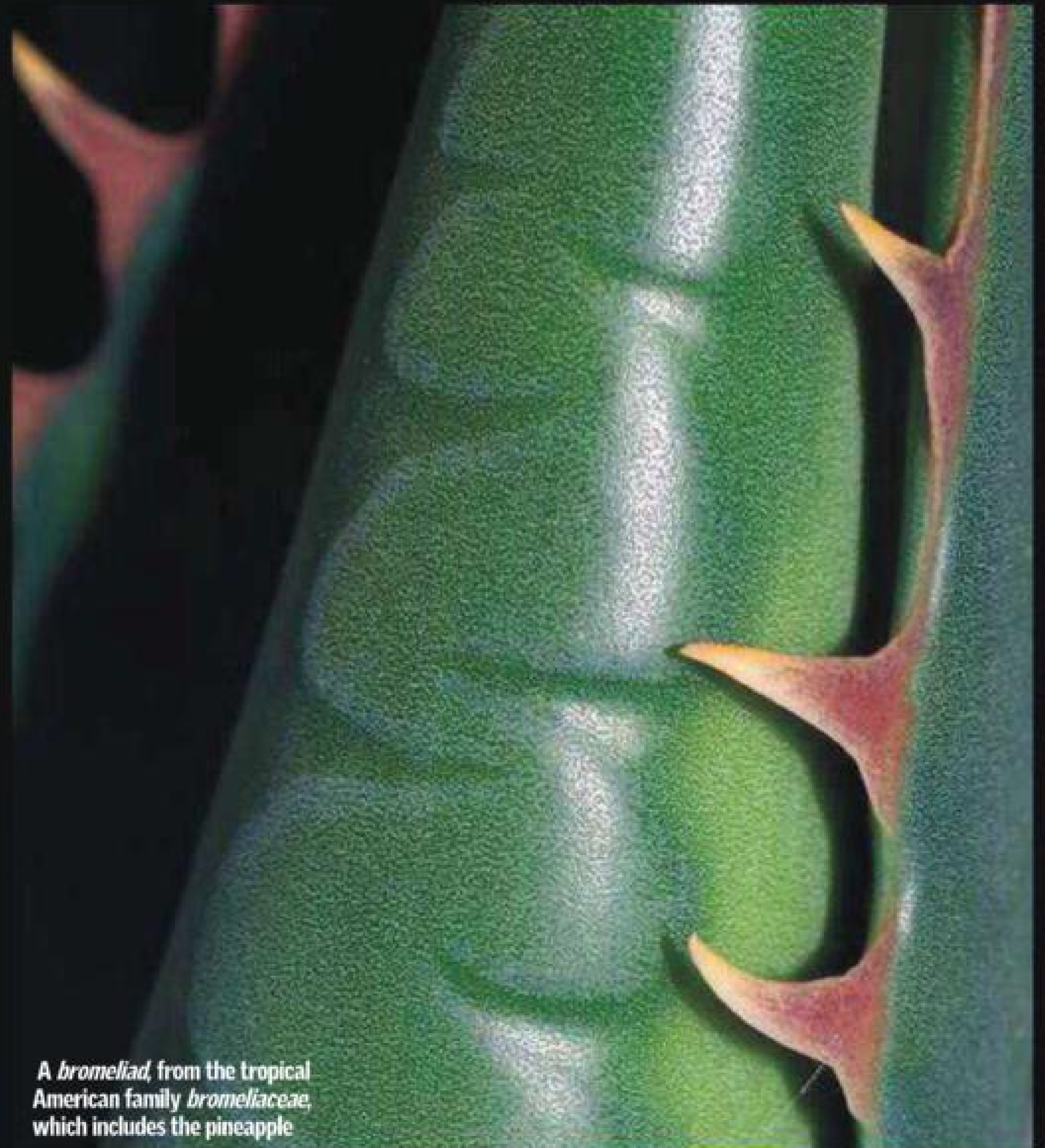
During the creation of *Digital Diaries*, Natacha got off with her boyfriends and mates, but for this project she began "a long love affair with spiders". You often need to look at their genitalia to tell them apart, so she started a project to identify the local San Francisco species based on their pedipalps – sperm delivery appendages. Natacha teamed up with Jeremy Miller and Fernando Alvarez Padilla at the California Academy Of Sciences to capture the penises on camera, and

A self-portrait of Natacha pumping her breast milk





Masked model Emily



A bromeliad, from the tropical American family bromeliaceae, which includes the pineapple

“THERE ARE LOTS OF WEIRD THINGS IN NATURE; WE’RE NOT IMPRESSIVE AT ALL IN OUR WEIRDNESS”

soon went one step further by shooting an erection. The palp was boiled in a lactic acid bath and dunked in water, making it unwind and expand, doubling in length. “It’s like cooking a sauce!” exclaims Natacha, who confesses in her book that she found it so beautiful that she wanted to “swallow it”.

But there’s a creepy side to some creepy-crawly copulation. During penetration, the male Australian Redback spider (*Latrodectus hasselti*) summersaults to position his abdomen “in front of the massive female’s mouth” so she can eat him, without struggle.

“These spiders actually *want* to be eaten,” stresses Natacha. “The theory goes that it’s hard to find a female. And if the female has a difficult time feeding herself, and *he* really wants to have

babies, the best option evolutionarily to increase his fitness is to get eaten. It’s been understood in terms of sexual selection that this is the way that’s going to optimise the fitness. The females keep selecting males that behave this way, and it’s perpetuated in the population as a trait.”

In humans, Natacha relates the sacrifice to “being consumed” by her role as a parent. “A big trend right now is that the baby comes first. You’re supposed to give it everything before any of your own goals or savings. And it’s OK if some people want to do that, but I don’t,” she says.

To explore these issues, Natacha photographed her baby bump, and posed pumping her breast milk through a peephole bra, showing that the natural process of breast-feeding can be erotic; mother and lover can be dual roles.

BDSMMMMMM

Getting deeper into antagonistic co-evolution between the sexes, Natacha creates BDSM imagery to show that rivalry shouldn’t always be reviled, and that struggles between the sexes can be satisfying. Leather restraints strain across naked female flesh, Japanese rope bondage ties crisscross breasts, and a violet wand sparks above a clitoris – images unfortunately too graphic to show on these pages.

“I think that power exchange is really beautiful,” Natacha sighs. “Some things that you think may be painful are not, and to explore that artistically is a lot of fun. To go beyond just, ‘Let’s masturbate’. I hope when people look at these pictures, they go, ‘Oh, I thought that hurt, but actually it’s something pleasant that I might even want on my wall.’

One of the most violent images is a chain bisecting a girl’s labia, blood dripping between her thighs. Again, Natacha hoped to show the beauty in a biological process – menstruation.

“It’s a huge part of our life,” she says. “It’s a week in a month, and it’s a *big* deal. And it’s

An orchid



Eliza





'Matisse'

*Nymphaea odorata*, also known as the white water lily

beautiful. She happened to be on her period, and we used the chain because we wanted to make it *look* extreme. I think blood is part of our nature, and it's another one of those things that we're not allowed to bring into our artistic world."

INSECTS TO INCEST

Not one to shy away from controversy, Natacha broaches another taboo topic: incest. One model showed up with her sister, so Natacha photographed them kissing and cuddling, but observed that it didn't make her horny. "Is it a genetic risk associated with incest that turns me off?" she wonders in her book. "The putrid smell of recessive mutations?"

Finally, she was inspired by scars on one of the girls' thighs, made during her teenage years, and shot them while the duo discussed their family history. "In the end it was a journey into their sexuality, or lack thereof," says Natacha.

After comparing and contrasting human and plant sexuality, Natacha thinks it's ridiculous that people make "a big deal about homosexuality and a little bit of bondage", in our population, when other species are so varied. "There are lots of

*Lycosid Epgynura*, female spider genitalia

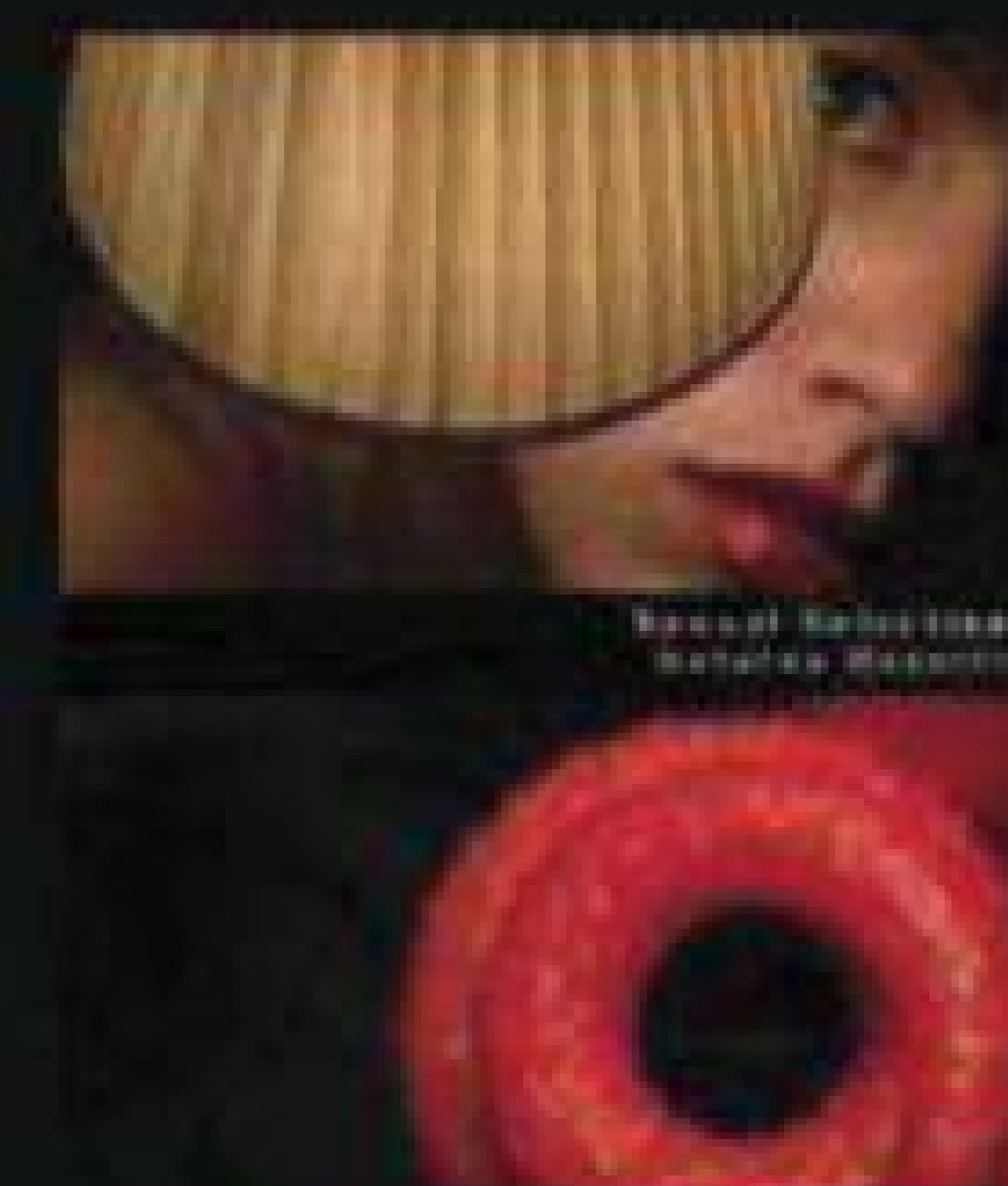
"PERVERTS ARE EVERYWHERE ALONG THE COASTLINE IN SAN FRANCISCO!"

weird things out there in nature; we're not impressive at all in our weirdness," she says, "So let's just get over ourselves and just be."

The photographer-cum-biologist is also relaxed about voyeurism. While she was masturbating in the great outdoors, she noticed a man watching her, but she didn't freak out.

"Perverts are everywhere along the coastline in San Francisco – you can't go to the bathroom without looking up and seeing one in the bushes!" Natacha laughs. "People always say, 'Perverts are so bad!' And I think, No, it's adaptive behaviour. Some species can't reproduce among themselves or fend for themselves or find their own nutrients. I think it's the same thing with a pervert. Some just can't do it the traditional way, and they just need to masturbate in bushes. And that's OK."

Sexual Selection is available from Amazon.co.uk, via Turnaround. Natacha is currently looking for European venues to host her work. For more, visit Natacha-merritt.com



Natacha photographed sisters cuddling



Another self portrait, with model Kara

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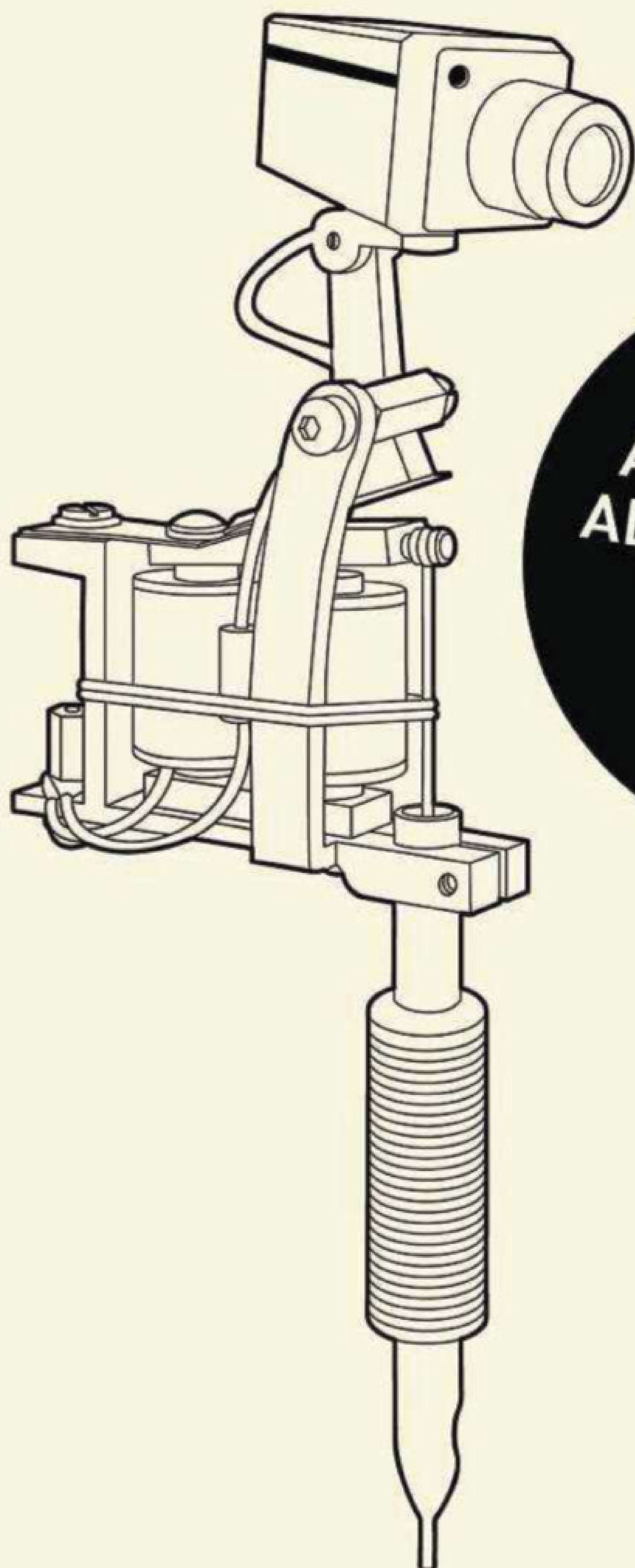
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Every month, *Bizarre* celebrates the world's finest tattooists. Only the best flesh artists deserve our **Inking Icon** accolade

THE EARL OF GREY

Steve Soto's strong family ties, bad-boy-made-good journey and Mexican heritage have all influenced his masterful black and grey style. Going grey has never looked so great...

WORDS **ALIX FOX**
PHOTOS **STEVE SOTO**

The first ever ink I got was a design I poked into my finger myself using a paperclip when I was just 12," grins tattoo maestro Steve Soto. "It's three dots, which stand for the phrase 'Mi Vida Loca', or 'My crazy life'. It symbolises how I felt about my existence at that time – I was pretty wild and reckless."

The trio of marks is still visible on Steve's hand, although the out-of-control craziness isn't quite so evident in his life now that he's the responsible 33-year-old owner of Goodfellas Tattoo Studio in California's Orange County.

Steve's won over 200 awards for his work, which is sported by numerous celebrities including Korn bassist Fieldy – who wears a Soto sacred heart on his back, and has also been known to wear a Soto T-shirt on stage.

Known for specialising in finely-shaded black and grey pieces, Steve receives most praise for his realistic monochrome portraits, and his Day Of The Dead-influenced pictures of beautiful (and often half-rotting, corpse-like) women whose faces are decorated like sugar skulls, which have helped bolster an international trend of tattoos and fashions inspired by Mexican traditions.

GREY OF THE DEAD

Steve grew up in a Catholic household, surrounded by Mexican iconography. His parents, Luis and Alicia, are now United States citizens and speak English, but when Steve was born they only spoke Spanish – and used it to tell him ancient ghost stories that would regularly make him shart his shorts.

"Mexican fairytales aren't saccharine sweet like American bedtime lullabies," he warns. "If I didn't get under the covers at night, I was taught that the kiddy-eating bogeyman El Cuco would come and devour me. Then there was →



La Llorona, or 'The Crying Lady': a woman named Maria who was said to have drowned her two children in a lake so that she didn't have to care for them and could instead spend time with her lover. Later, she became wracked with regret, and after she died, her spirit supposedly didn't pass to the afterlife but stayed on earth, weeping and wailing, 'Ay, mis hijos! Ay, mis hijos!' - 'My children! My children!'. If Mexican kids don't go straight to sleep at bedtime, they're told that La Llorona might steal them in order to replace her own dead babies. If I heard cats screeching outside my bedroom, I'd shit myself thinking it was her!"

Given that Steve's Mexican heritage is so deeply engrained, and he was brought up to respect the culture and its customs, you might expect him to be offended by clients who ask him to tattoo, say, a picture of 'Lady Of The

Dead' Mictecacihuatl on their skin just because it's fashionable, without having a true understanding her significance to Mexican people. However, he's unruffled.

"So long as folks have a positive attitude towards Mexican art, I think it's fine for them to appreciate stuff like *Día de los Muertos* skulls for purely aesthetic reasons", he philosophises. "I do appreciate it when people educate themselves a little, if only because the stories behind many of our icons and images are pretty cool!"

He also thinks their meanings are evolving. "I think that having a Mexican-inspired tatt is becoming a kind of new tradition in itself in West Coast America, too. When illustrations originally associated with Mexico are translated into tattoos, they're now associated with California."

And many of the best examples are associated with inking icon Steve Soto.

CREWS CONTROL

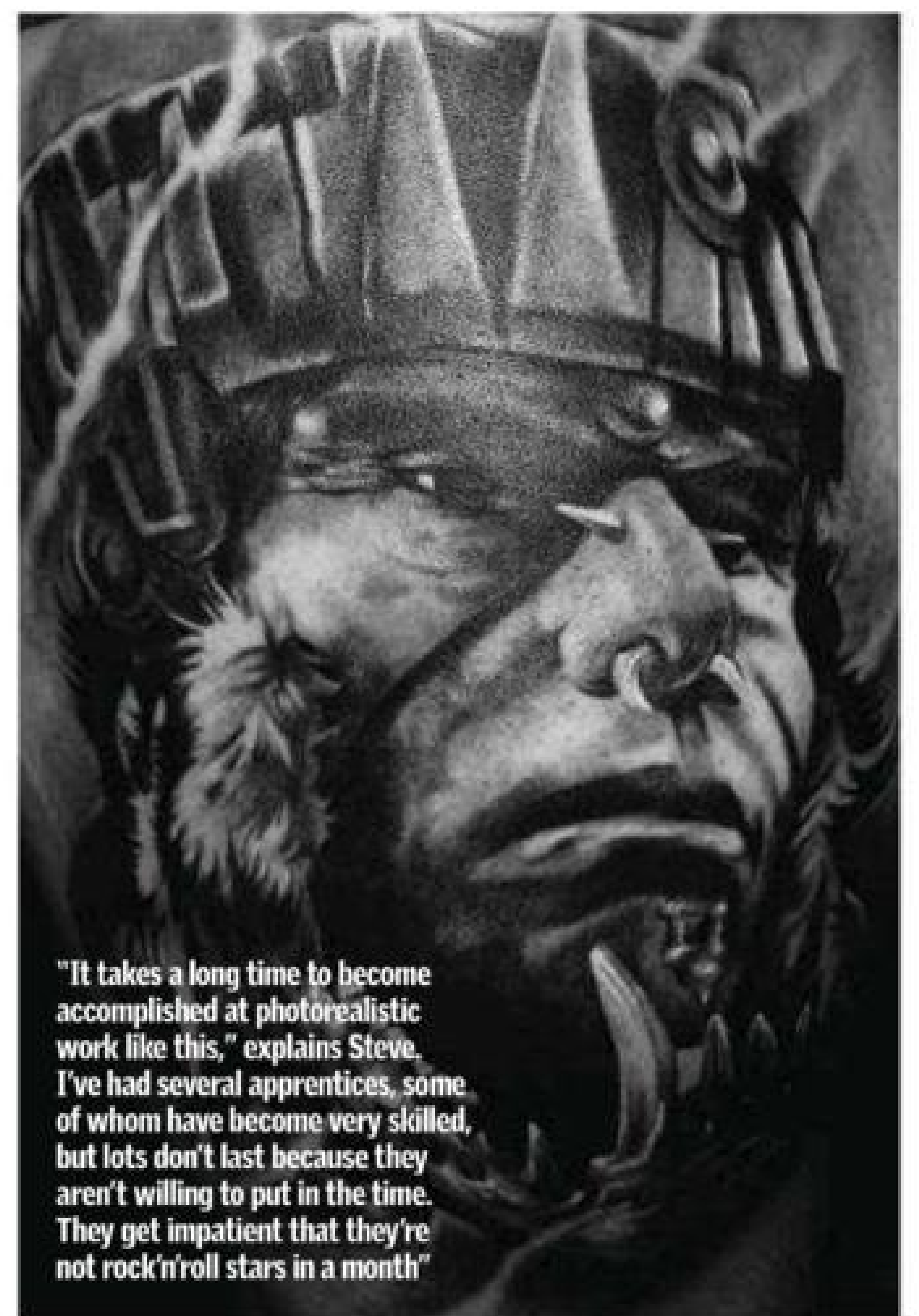
That Steve is alive and tattooing at all, never mind helping to create modern traditions, is something to raise your tequila glass to. The spooky legends that helped keep him in check as a tiddler failed to reign him in as an adolescent.

"I was a member of a 'party crew' - a bunch of good-time guys who would break into warehouses to hold illegal events where everyone would drink and dance," he explains. "Party crews were an alternative to gangs in that they weren't violent... initially, at least. Sadly, while the scene was brilliant fun at first, whenever you get big clubs of stupid young men they tend to start competing against each other. Things turned dark, and people started getting killed."

Heartbreakingly, Steve's best friend since childhood, Luis Sanchez, was slain during this period. Soto himself had a run-in with the law, was kicked out of school, and spent time in jail... and he also became a father to his first child, Stevie Soto Jr, who was conceived when he was just 15. "The hardest thing was telling my mum - I'm surprised she didn't feed me to El Cuco there and then!" he recalls. "My family were incredibly supportive though, and my son had plenty of love - and still does, of course." →

"I was in a party crew with a bunch of good-time guys, but things turned dark and people started getting killed"

"I do use colour - I've been tattooing a few red roses with skulls lately, which has made a refreshing change - but I'm lucky that I'm at a level in my career nowadays where I can pick and choose my clients," says Steve. "I've been rejecting bright pieces in order to focus on black and grey designs like this floral portrait, in order to further hone my techniques"



"It takes a long time to become accomplished at photorealistic work like this," explains Steve. "I've had several apprentices, some of whom have become very skilled, but lots don't last because they aren't willing to put in the time. They get impatient that they're not rock'n'roll stars in a month"



Steve's black and grey work features intricate shading



"When I first noticed Mexican-inspired imagery spreading right across Europe and beyond, I was kinda tripping out... It was strange to see such iconography so far away from its original home and meaning," remembers Steve. "It's beautiful artwork though, so why not? I love fusing illustrations of beautiful women with Mexican influences, and I do so much of it here in California that such tattoos are becoming a kind of mini West Coast tradition"

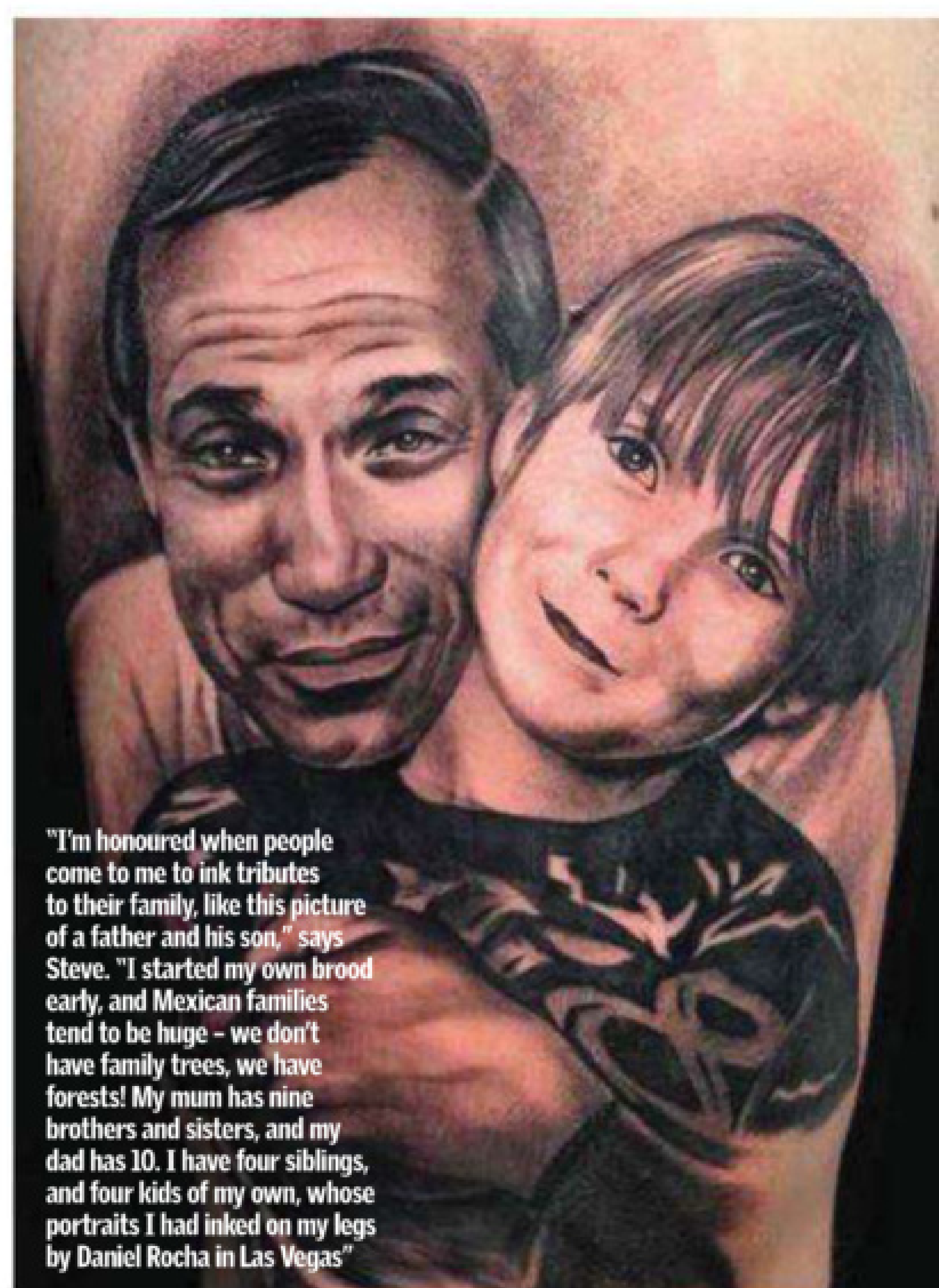




Steve was brought up as a Catholic, and surrounded by Mexican imagery, which has influenced his work



Steve doesn't mind it when clients want Mexican designs just because they're fashionable, but likes it when they take the time to discover the stories behind the icons



"I'm honoured when people come to me to ink tributes to their family, like this picture of a father and his son," says Steve. "I started my own brood early, and Mexican families tend to be huge - we don't have family trees, we have forests! My mum has nine brothers and sisters, and my dad has 10. I have four siblings, and four kids of my own, whose portraits I had inked on my legs by Daniel Rocha in Las Vegas"

“So long as folks have a positive attitude towards Mexican art, it's fine for them to appreciate *Día de los Muertos* skulls”

GREY MATTERS

The responsibility of fatherhood was one of the elements which prompted Steve to drop the 'P' and 'Y' from 'party' and begin to focus on art. "I wanted something more from my life, something more positive," he muses. "As a kid I'd collected baseball cards, and spent hours drawing portraits of players. I got back into sketching, rediscovered how much personal joy I got from mastering gradients and shading, and things went from there."

While bringing home the bacon via a variety of jobs, by 20 he was studying graphic design at

Santa Ana Community College, and soon afterwards bagged an apprenticeship at a local tattoo studio, where he fast became known for his black and grey skills. Working in monochrome was a natural extension of Steve's flair for pencil drawings, but also reflected the tastes of the time and place.

"There was a real admiration for smooth, professional, black and grey pieces in my neighbourhood," he remembers. "If you could do a decent shading job, it was a pretty big deal - partly because people saw so many ex-cons walking around with less-than-great black ink

they'd got done in prison, and so finely-finished work was all the better by comparison.

"To be honest, I saw so many jailhouse scratches that I was bored with black and grey for a while, but as I studied artists like Mister Cartoon (a Los Angeles tattoo artist renowned for black and grey work on celebrities including Dr Dre, Eminem, Travis Barker and Beyoncé), my interests were revitalised... and now it's my trademark."

For those whose own interests in tattooing have been sparked by Steve, he has an important word of advice. "If a client asks you to tattoo a portrait of their mother, always give her a little makeover!" he laughs. "Mums are far less likely to throw their children to La Llorona for getting tattooed if the ink makes them look hot!"

In a world full of grey areas, that's one black'n'white rule *Bizarre* can certainly agree with. **B**

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BUG BATTLES

GO ON, YOU
LOSER - KILL
HIM!

JUST TICKLE
THE LITTLE
FUCKER
AND HE'LL GO
APE-SHIT!

For the world's weirdest sport, look no further than China's brutal bug battles...

WICKED CRICKETS!

BUG BATTLES

Before a bout begins, each cricket is weighed using electronic scales. Bugs weigh around 1-2g

Competitors check up on their fighters, to make sure they're eating

Mention the words 'cricket tournament' in the UK, and you'll probably think about men dressed in white, the satisfying sound of leather on willow, and smug twats braying outside gastro pubs with chunky knit jumpers nonchalantly slung over their shoulders. But mention a cricket tournament in China and the locals will think you're talking about something completely different – and a lot creepier.

The tournaments pictured here, staged in rural villages near Shanghai, are part of a growing number of bug-fighting championships held across China during the annual cricket season, which begins during the summer months and runs until the first November frost. During these epic tournaments, thousands of cricket fans from across China gather to test the agility of their arthropods against other six-legged competitors, or simply to kick back and watch the action unfold on massive video screens.

A HISTORY OF BUG BATTLES

The Chinese have been staging bug battles for over 1,000 years, when emperors of the Tang Dynasty first killed time by making bets on bickering crickets – an eccentric hobby that was soon adopted and popularised by commoners outside the palace walls.

Cricket battles were banned during China's Cultural Revolution from 1966-1976, during which time capitalist, traditional and cultural elements such as board game Mahjong and pigeon racing were outlawed, as they were thought to be at odds with Chairman Mao Zedong's vision of a socialist China.

In recent years, the sport has seen a dramatic rise in popularity among young men, who see it as a way to keep traditional Chinese pastimes alive. But while public cricket scraps were originally conceived as a way for people to have fun betting on the outcome of battles, gambling on bug matches today is outlawed by the Chinese government, and it's common for impromptu street battles to be raided by police who are intent

To us, he's a pest.
To the Chinese, he's a sporting legend!

A losing cricket is held in contempt by his owner. Most losers are simply thrown away on the city streets

As the bouts unfold, a judge keeps a careful eye on the scores

2011 年上海市首届中蜂第一网七宝草堂杯邀请赛 A、B 组循环初赛

场	第二场	第三场	第四场	第五场
组	A3 对 A4	A1 对 A2	A1 对 A4	
组	静 冠	秋 山	秋 冠	
组	B4	B1 对 B2	B1 对 B4	
组	车 聚	长 聚	车 聚	

抽签完成, 比赛期间不得

Two owners tease their crickets with straw sticks to make them angry. Grrr!



When the crickets get angry, they start snapping their powerful mandibles

"Take that, you six-legged freak!"



on nicking anyone having an illicit flutter.

However, as anyone who emerges victorious in officially sanctioned tournaments can earn anything up to £1,000 in prize money, official competitions are quickly becoming more popular than their shady backstreet counterparts, and each year hopefuls trawl the sprawling bug markets in cities such as Shanghai and Beijing where bug bruisers are available for around £1-£30, depending on how vicious they are. And if you're lucky enough to be the owner of crickets sourced from Shandong province, you can charge top dollar for your bugs, as the soil and weather conditions in that area are said to produce particularly vicious insects, who are rumoured to fight the hardest.

GETTING IN THE MOOD

Before a brawl, male fighting crickets are treated like royalty. Each bug is kept in its own clay pot on a bed of sand, and fed a luscious diet that includes red beans, shrimp and ginger-infused goat liver. The most pampered crickets are even given a rejuvenating herbal bath the night before a battle, followed by a night of passion with

a bevy of female crickets, which is believed to sharpen a bug's fighting spirit.

When a bout begins, two male crickets are placed in a plastic container and their owners brush the front of their heads with a mouse's whisker or strand of hay to rile them up.

Once the crickets see red and begin snapping their powerful jaws, the referee lifts a plastic divider separating the combatants and the fight begins. But despite the feverish build-up before a bout, battles are normally over in less than a minute, with the loser normally scuttling off to a corner of the container to escape its stronger opponent. And despite the fact that cricket fighting is considered a blood sport, few insects are harmed during tournaments, with a broken antenna being the worst injury that most crickets face.

Today, it's estimated that the Chinese spend over £370m on the purchase and upkeep of fighting crickets, making it one of the nation's most popular hobbies. And as living standards continue to improve and the blossoming Chinese economy means people have more spare time and money to spend, the world's weirdest sport looks set to grow and grow. 

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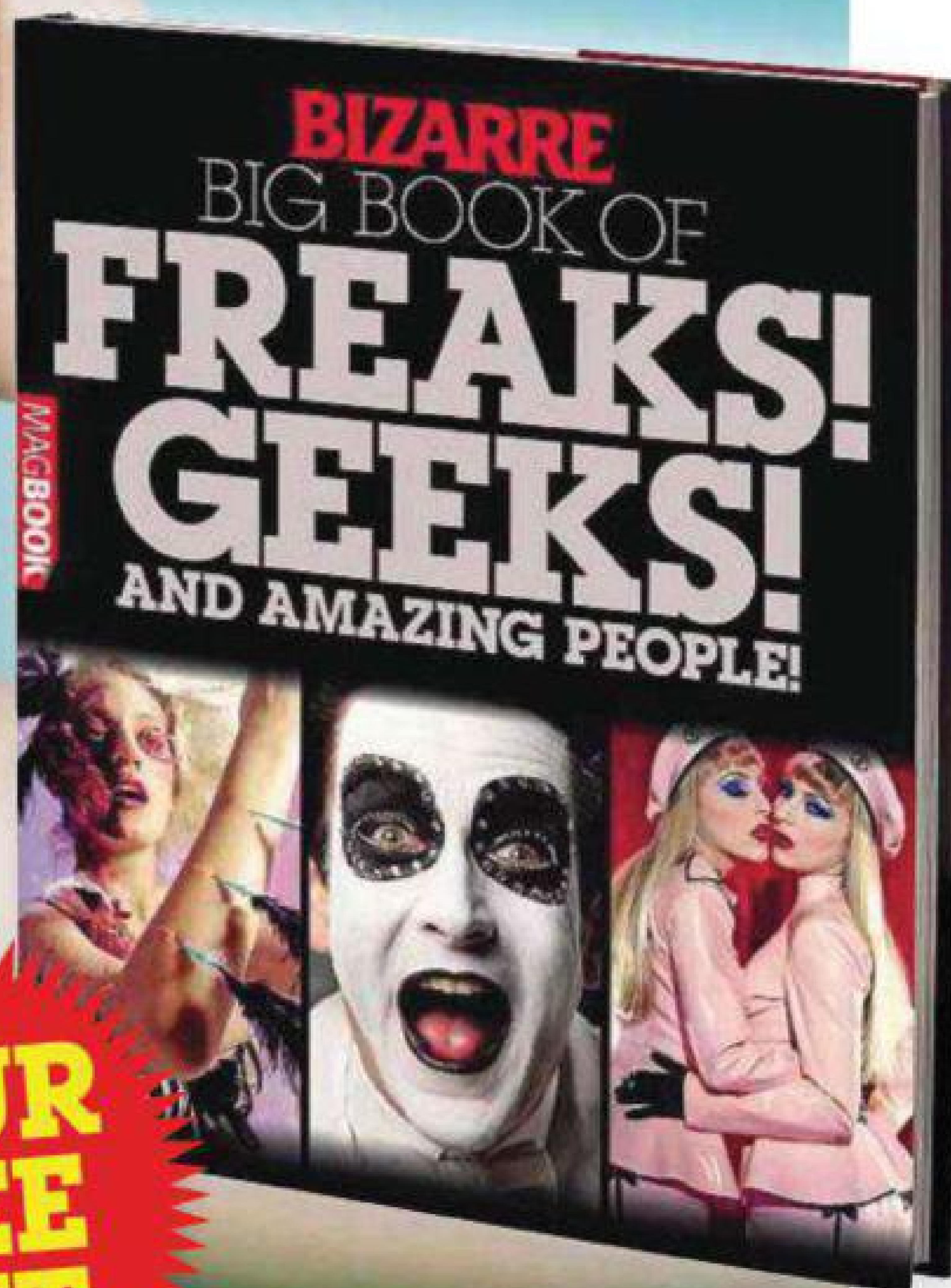
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Death comes to us
all in the end... but some people manage to
make a more memorable exit than others!

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POISONED BY
PARROT FARTS

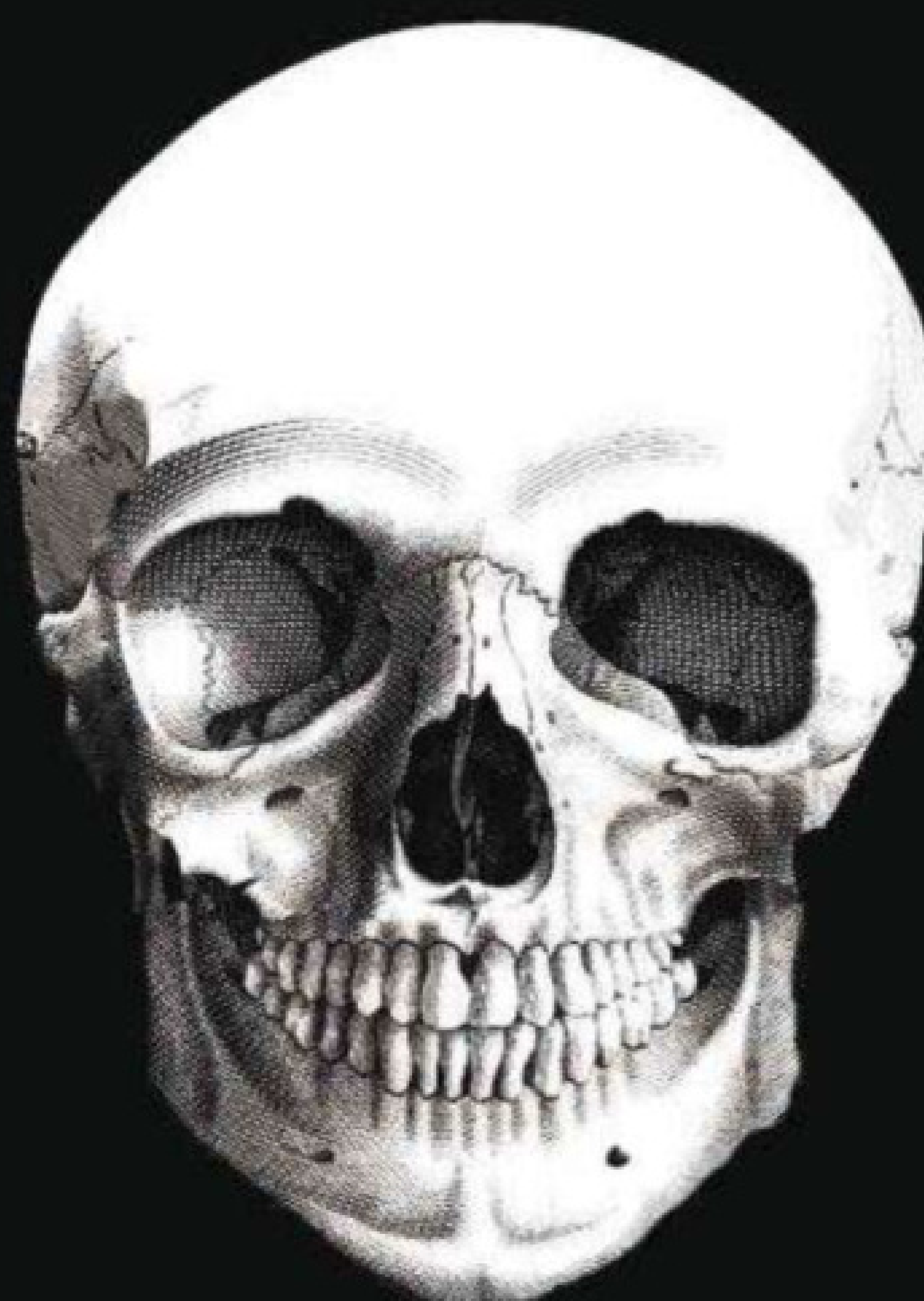
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BY FLYING
LAMB CHOP

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EATEN BY HIPPO

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CRUSHED
BY COFFIN

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Strange Deaths



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SHUFFLING OFF THIS MORTAL COIL

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KILLED BY GIANT
JOSS STICK

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CINEMA 96

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GAMES 110

MUSIC 114

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MINDWARP

System Of A Down's Serj Tankian melds politics and weirdness on his third solo album 114

HOT THIS MONTH

Is your spending limited by the icy grip of recession? Then let *Bizarre* help you choose the best stuff money can buy until the next issue of *Bizarre* hits the shelves on **31 JULY**...

FILM

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

Dark Spidey reboot

OUT 3 JULY

While it might seem strange to have another Spider-Man 'origin' film a mere decade after Sam Raimi's big screen masterpiece, this fresh take on the web-slinger's transformation from teenage misfit into wise-cracking superhero is gearing up to be a dramatic reboot for the film franchise.

Like director Christopher Nolan's deliciously dark take on Batman, *The Amazing Spider-Man* is going to present New York's favourite son in a grittier, more realistic way, with a brooding tone that's closer to the *Ultimate Spider-Man* comics than Stan Lee and Steve Ditko's showboating strips.

Featuring The Lizard as Spidey's nemesis, web-swinging that looks more realistic and less like CGI, and a shadowy atmosphere that feels more mature than other Peter Parker flicks, *The Amazing Spider-Man* is sure to be this summer's biggest blockbuster, and a superhero movie that's worth getting excited about.





DVD

CROWS ZERO II

Takashi Miike is back and meaner than ever

OUT 2 JULY

With classic films such as *Ichi The Killer*, *Full Metal Yakuza* and *Audition* in his portfolio, there's no doubt that Takashi Miike is Japan's finest director. And with *Crows Zero II*, Miike once again proves that he's the king of big screen brutality. Following on from 2007's *Crows Zero*, the bombastic sequel once again focuses on the rivalries between high school

gangs, where books and teachers are ditched in favour of barbarous hand-to-hand combat, culminating in an epic scrap that lasts for over 20 minutes and will leave your brain spinning. Stylish and thrilling, and with memorable characters who you'll root for in every skirmish, *Crows Zero II* is an unmissable flick for fans of Asian ultra-violence.

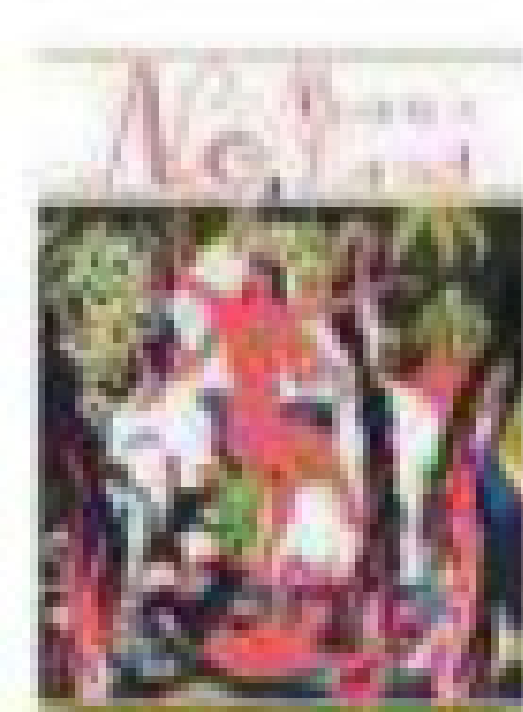


BOOK

NO MAN'S LAND

A dreamy trip told through mind-blowing images

BLEXBOLEX
OUT NOW



In Blexbolex's *Dog Crime*, a detective gets caught in a conspiracy. In this sequel, the same guy shoots himself in the head and goes into a 'no-man's land' between life and death, as his subconscious refuses

to accept the inevitable. What follows is a series of journeys on a ship, across a jungle and through a warzone, told via the French illustrator's sweeping block-colour images and simple typography. If you haven't read *Dog Crime* then this will be confusing, and if you have then it'll still be confusing. But it's a visually stunning book.

THE SQUEALER

MUSIC

ANTENNAS TO HELL

A celebration of Iowa's favourite goat-bothering sons

SLIPKNOT

OUT 16 JULY



Fans will already own the 19 tracks on the single-CD version of this release, but *Bizarre* rates the 3-disc package, which comes with the audio from Slipknot's 2009 *Download Festival* set, plus a DVD of all their

promo videos and 10 vignettes directed by Clown. He focuses on the band members in turn, cutting together old footage from their onstage and backstage antics, and it's touching to see clips from the shows dedicated to #2, bassist Paul Gray. There isn't much here for casual fans and there are no new songs, but you're a true maggot then you'll want this in your collection.



GAME

THEATRHYTHM FINAL FANTASY

A fresh musical take on the classic role players

OUT 6 JULY NINTENDO 3DS

An oddball rhythm-action game that feels like the forgotten 2007 DS classic, *Elite Beat Agents*, *Theatrhythm Final Fantasy* sees players swiping and tapping icons on the 3DS' touch screen in time to rousing themes from the *Final Fantasy* series. Increasingly

difficult tunes that get faster and more complex are used to battle familiar enemies from the *Final Fantasy* universe – and with over 50 tracks taken from *FFI* to *FFXIII*, this is a quirky diversion for fans of the evergreen swashbucklers, but will make you look like a twitching loon if you play it on the bus to work.



GOD BLESS AMERICA

An unlikely duo unite one nation under blood!

OUT 4 JULY

SOME OF THE CONTROVERSIAL

things many of us have thought but never dared share are voiced in this bruise-black satire.

God Bless America follows a terminally ill, jobless, American divorcee who's pissed off with people's lack of personal responsibility and consideration for others, and the way society's become governed by 'famous for fuck-all' pop culture. Played with intensity and pathos by Joel Murray from TV's *Mad Men*, he fantasises about becoming a vigilante, carrying out twisted acts such as shooting an incessantly bawling baby. Then something snaps, and he begins killing in real life, earning him an

unexpected teenage girl sidekick who's even more misanthropic than he is.

Former stand-up comedian Bobcat Goldthwait has already written and directed flicks about bestiality and a teacher profiting from his son's death by auto-asphyxiation, and here he remains on cage-rattling form. Yet while his message is extreme and contradictory (is extermination really morally superior behaviour?), its delivery is fun to watch, and packed with razor-sharp social commentary.

Consequently, you'll probably sympathise with his protagonists – despite their increasingly messy and violent actions – and go warm inside at the born-from-blood bond that forms between them.

Admittedly, there are times when you have to suspend disbelief: once the killers' mugs have been splashed across the media, it's highly unlikely they'd have remained at large. And frankly, Tara Lynne Barr's hyper performance as the firecracker teen occasionally grates. But as a slice of unfettered, wish-fulfilment entertainment, *God Bless America* deserves to be tragi-comedy of the year.

Billy Chainsaw

HE FANTASISES ABOUT
TWISTED ACTS, SUCH AS
SHOOTING A BABY



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THE DARK KNIGHT RISES

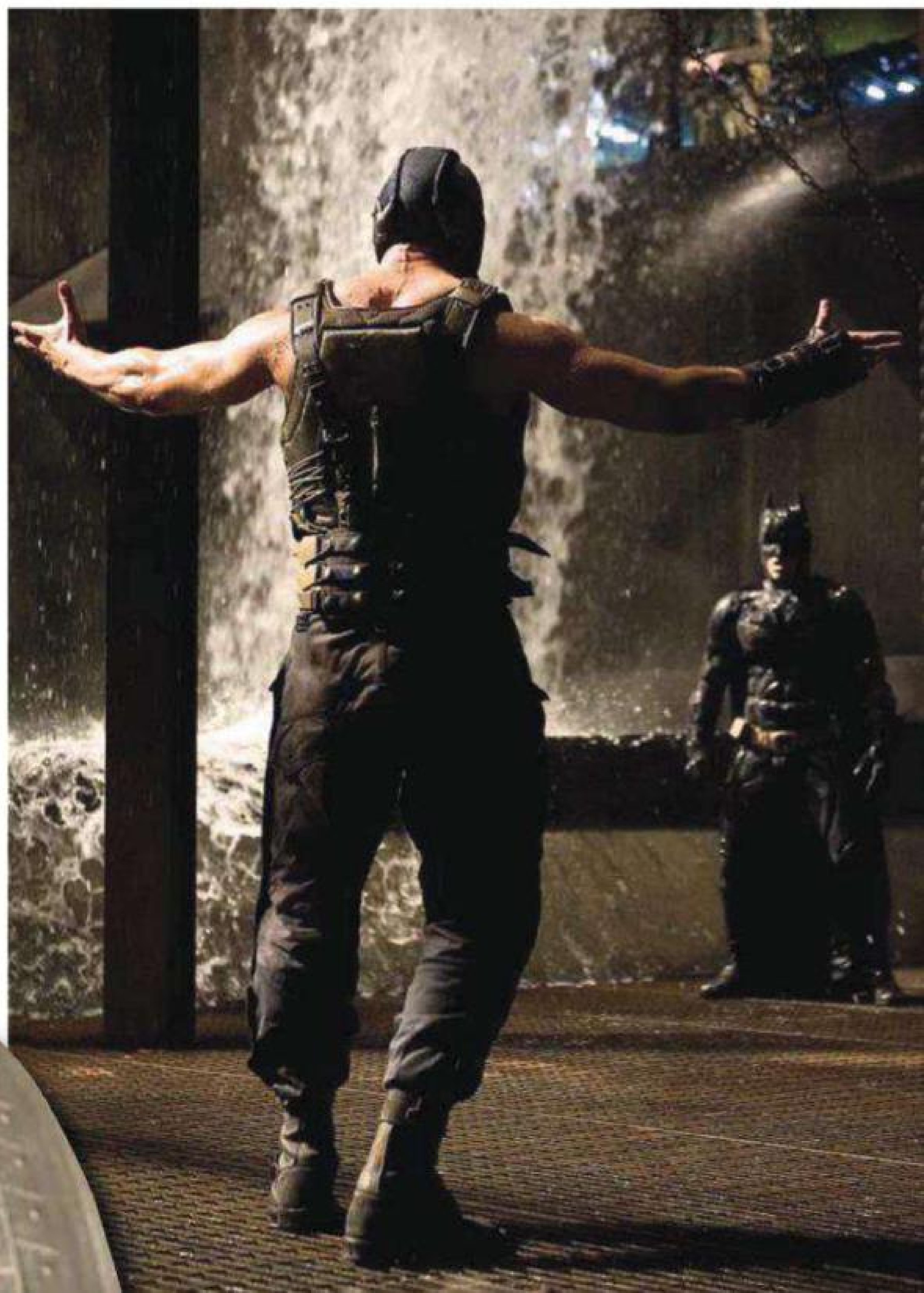
A ferocious swan song for the caped crusader

OUT 20 JULY

THE FINAL INSTALMENT IN

director Christopher Nolan's reboot of the Batman film franchise, *The Dark Knight Rises* promises to bring an explosive conclusion to the shady trilogy. Staged eight years after *The Dark Knight*, the new flick sees Batman returning to Gotham City after taking the rap for Harvey Dent's crimes, but discovering that his beloved 'hood has

become overrun by vicious criminal gangs. Out of shape after almost a decade away from crime-fighting – and facing his most formidable foes to date in the brutal Bane and slinky Catwoman – *The Dark Knight Returns* is the caped crusader's most formidable challenge yet, and is sure to deliver the same gritty action, foreboding atmosphere and dramatic set-pieces as its esteemed processors.



THE BEST NEW FILMS COMING TO A BIG DARK ROOM NEAR YOU

THE SQUEALER

THE HUNTER

Join the hunt for the elusive Tasmanian tiger

OUT 6 JULY

THE STORY OF A CRAGGY-FACED tracker sent to Australia to find the last living Tasmanian tiger, we're looking forward to *The Hunter* mostly because it features Willem Dafoe in the lead role, who can make even the shittiest film shine. Set in the wilds of Tasmania, *The Hunter* is also an exciting prospect as the production team used spectacular scenery and natural lighting to make audiences feel as if they're walking side-by-side with Dafoe's tracker, and share his

highs and lows as he tries to capture a creature that might not exist at all. And with a dysfunctional family and hippy-bashing lumberjacks thrown into the mix to bring a little human drama to the story, we're confident *The Hunter* will be an affecting, entertaining and deliciously different experience this summer.

TOTAL RECALL

A new take on Philip K Dick's classic story

OUT 3 JULY

A REMAKE OF THE CULT ARNOLD

Schwarzenegger flick from 1990, and based on writer Philip K Dick's short story 'We Can Remember It For You Wholesale', *Total Recall* could go either way. On one hand, director Len

Wiseman's faithful approach to adapting Dick's work will make for a deeper exploration of the book's themes, and will focus more on politics and the implications of replacing memories than on bulging muscles and triple-boobed hookers. But as the entire film is set on Earth and doesn't include a thrilling trip to another planet, this remake will deprive audiences of one of the finest lines ever delivered in an action flick: "Get your ass to Mars!"



THE SOUL OF FLIES

Spanish comedy roadtrip with a warm heart

OUT 13 JULY

AN ODDBALL COMEDY THAT SEES

two brothers who've never met before travelling across Spain for the funeral of their estranged father, *The Soul Of Flies* is a weird roadtrip peppered with quirky characters, strange dream sequences, and witty

musings on the meaning of life. Made on a shoestring budget and with a production crew of seven, *The Soul Of Flies* is a world away from the showboating theatrics of this summer's big screen blockbusters; but with its warm heart, epic scenery and existential journey that sees its central characters maturing as the story unfolds, this promises to be a smart and touching alternative to *The Dark Knight Returns'* eyebrow-singeing pyrotechnics.



DESIRE TO KILL

People get sicker and sicker at this hospital!

OUT 23 JULY

This offbeat, brutal thriller proves that there's more to Asian cinema than long-haired ghost babes, demonic school kids, and insane splatterfests.

South Korean in origin, the low-key affair is set predominantly in a hospital ward. A bloke suffering from post-suicide-attempt trauma (*I Saw the Devil's* Ho-jin Cheon) is enraged when the next bed is given to an unconscious, paralysed amnesiac (*The Unjust's* Yoo Hae-jin), who he recognises as his wife's killer. He sets about avenging her death, before the murderer can remember his crime.

The flick's four directors mess with viewers' perceptions, going all-out once the protagonists start suffering the hallucinatory side-effects of their experimental prescription drugs.

As both men are virtually immobile, you wouldn't expect the film to be particularly entertaining, but it sure as hell is – in a violently slapstick, *Itchy & Scratchy* way. The filmmakers also throw in lashings of black comedy – the attempted skull-smashing scene, involving a stocking pilfered from a nurse and a slab of soap, is particularly hilarious.

But what's most impressive is how well-structured the movie's script is. Interwoven clues to the pair's fucked-up past ensure that you get something more satisfying than just a series of strung-together set-pieces leading to an orgiastic bloodbath. It's proof that blending mega-violence with intelligent writing is preferable to gratuitous, torture porn nastiness.

Billy Chainsaw



THE ATTEMPTED
SKULL-SMASHING
SCENE IS
PARTICULARLY
HILARIOUS



**MORE DVDS
THIS WAY!**

DVD PREVIEW

ANGEL BEATS!

Dead schoolgirls wage war on God!

OUT NOW

STAY WITH US ON THIS ONE...

a young man wakes up in a school playground, where a saucy minx with a sniper rifle tells him that he's dead. The wide-eyed cutie goes on to reveal that all the girls in the school have shuffled off their mortal coil, and that their spirits are now part of a rebellious group called the Afterlife Battlefront that's leading a revolt against God. Still there...? If so, you're clearly the sort of manga nut who

loves Japanese flights of fancy as much as *Bizarre* – and they don't come much nuttier than *Angel Beats!* But while the story's bat-shit crazy and the heroines are the sort of kinky, doe-eyed schoolgirls that are *de rigueur* in Japanese animation, a sharp sense of humour, oddball musical numbers and well-rounded characters you'll quickly grow to love make *Angel Beats!* an anime worth cherishing, and a rip-roaring adventure for the otaku hardcore.



THE HOUSE

Asian fright flick/murder
mystery mash-up

OUT NOW

ALTHOUGH THAI HORROR TENDS

to be hit-and-miss, *The House* is looking like a fright flick to rival cult classics *Shutter* and *Buppah Rahtree*. Unlike the meandering, complicated plots of other Asian scary movies, the action in *The House* is driven by a bewitching murder mystery that slowly unravels as the story progresses, and promises to hook viewers inexorably into the experience. Creaking doors, slamming windows and flickering lights are also used to build an atmosphere of dread, and there's plenty of fake blood thrown around the shadowy sets to leave you feeling on edge as the film crashes towards its shocking conclusion. Many critics have slammed *The House* for being slow, clumsy and generic – but here at *Bizarre*, we think you're going to love it.



AIRBORNE

Use the Force, Luke!

OUT 23 JULY

AIRBORNE IS AN ODD PROPOSITION.

Riffing on 9/11, the movie risks public outcry by offering a similar tale where punters on a commercial flight are held hostage by terrorists, intent on using the plane as a weapon. It also features Mark Hamill – AKA *Star Wars*' Luke Skywalker – in the lead role, which is

the first time he's ever appeared in a British film. Strangest of all, *Airborne* includes star turns by Billy Murray, who's better known for *EastEnders*, and some bird who used to be in *Hollyoaks*. Hmmm. While it's safe to say this won't be a classic, *Airborne*'s eclectic cast and ballsy premise will make it worth a look, even if only to see how the fresh-faced Jedi's girth has increased since the early 1990s when he first retreated to sound studios to record voiceovers for Batman cartoons.

EXIT HUMANITY

A zombie flick, but
not as we know it

OUT 2 JULY

WHILE THERE'S NO DENYING THE thrill of a good zombie movie, the genre kick-started by George A Romero in 1968 is now so oversaturated that even *Bizarre* is starting to get bored with flesh-eating shufflers. But *Exit Humanity*

is going to offer something fresh and exciting. Set shortly after the American Civil War in the 1870s, the film is a period piece that uses real historical events to shape its tale of zombie shenanigans, and pits man against his most enduring cinematic foe without the benefit of uzis, helicopters, or the other weapons of mass destruction normally used to butcher the living dead. Hopefully *Exit Humanity* will show that there's still life left in the undead.



DOUBLE **HORROR** FEATURE!

DR BLACKTHORN

Serving up delicious movie delights to make you sick!

THIS
MONTH:
**GUTS OF
A VIRGIN!**

“After watching the *Paint Your Teeth: The Movie!!* YouTube film featured in The Grinder this month (see p14), I couldn't resist raiding my DVD collection to search for more kinky thrills from the Land Of The Rising Sun. And as *Guts Of A Virgin* (AKA *Entrails Of A Virgin*, or *Shojo No Harawata* in its native tongue) has been sitting unwatched on

my shelf since I stumbled across the disc during a trip to Holland in the late 1990s, it felt like the right time to peel off the shrink wrap and sample a movie I've frankly been too scared to watch until now.

Guts Of A Virgin (1986) was born from the Japanese craze for 'pink films' – softcore porno flicks that were exhibited in cinemas in the 1960s, became big-budget affairs when major film studios wanted a piece of the action in the 1970s, but died in the 1980s when home video took off, allowing people to watch proper skin flicks whenever they liked.

"Because of tough censorship laws in Japan, pink films were often based on popular film genres and used compelling plots, decent actors and high production values to try and justify the shagging. And when Japanese directors experimented with mixing horror and erotica in what became known as the 'splatter-eros' subgenre of pink films, the results were predictably gruesome.

"Although *Guts Of A Virgin* starts with a traditional glamour shoot and lots of naked flesh, it soon takes a detour into darker territory when the photographer and his lackeys take a trip to a remote cabin in the woods, where they indulge in bouts of abusive sex with the young models. But while this makes for uncomfortable viewing, the film becomes particularly nasty when a monster emerges from the trees and systematically picks off the men by smashing them in the head with a hammer or sticking a meat hook through their throats, before turning his attention – and gargantuan cock – to the girls in



"A HOT GIRL FRIGS HERSELF OFF WITH A SEVERED ARM!"

a series of shadowy scenes. The director gets around censorship laws by not showing any genitalia, but the actresses' screams of anguish are disturbingly relentless, and the shonky camerawork makes it feel as if you're watching a forbidden snuff movie.

"Is *Guts Of A Virgin* any good? Of course it isn't. But as an example of a film genre that couldn't exist anywhere else in the world, it's fascinating viewing, particularly for anyone who digs Japanese fright flicks and is willing to put up with the cultural differences that often make Asian horrors difficult to watch. And if you can get past the ridiculous 1980s hairstyles, stupid monster that's just a man covered in mud, and sex scenes that are about as erotic as pairing your socks, you'll be treated to a scene where a hot Japanese chick furiously frigs herself off with a severed arm. Now that's something you don't see every day!"



WHO'S THIS?

Dr Blackthorn is leader of the *Bizarre* team, and will be using this wretched column to share his thoughts on the random films cluttering up his hard drive.

BILLY CHAINSAW

All the latest news from *Bizarre's* free film club, CUT!

THIS
MONTH:
ABSENTIA

“The latest CUT! Screening to leave attendees speechless is a low-key, dark, disturbing nightmare that gets down with the sickness.

Taking its title from the legal term used for a missing person who's been declared dead, *Absentia*

"THEIR LIVES SPIRAL DANGEROUSLY OUT OF CONTROL"

sees the young wife of one such individual get a visit from her ex-junkie sister to help her deal with her loss. Unfortunately, the duo fall prey to a series of supernatural shenanigans and their lives spiral dangerously out of control. Think beat author William Burroughs' notorious novel *Naked Lunch* spliced with dark Norwegian fairy tale 'Three Billy Goats Gruff' and Guillermo del Toro's bug flick *Mimic*, and you can imagine the kind of head-fuck in store. Mind you, while Burroughs' book was packed with pitch-black humour, there's nothing at all to laugh about here.

Writer/director Mike Flanagan delivers barely-glimpsed horrors amid an atmosphere that shifts between calm and surreal. Thankfully, his ability to generate skin-crawling terror is equalled by Katie

Parker and Courtney Bell's wholly believable performances as the mentally tormented siblings. It's definitely one of the creepiest movies you'll see all year.

Absentia is released on DVD on 9 July



WHO'S THIS?

Billy Chainsaw is *Bizarre's* Film And DVD Editor, and he also runs our regular FREE film club in London, CUT! (cast your eyes right to see what sick treats Billy has in store at the next screening).

BIZARRE presents

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BILLY CHAINSAW
BIZARRE FILM EDITOR

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★★★★★

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DVD/BLU-RAY OUT
20 AUGUST
SEE IT FIRST
AT CUT!

THE
AGGRESSION
SCALE

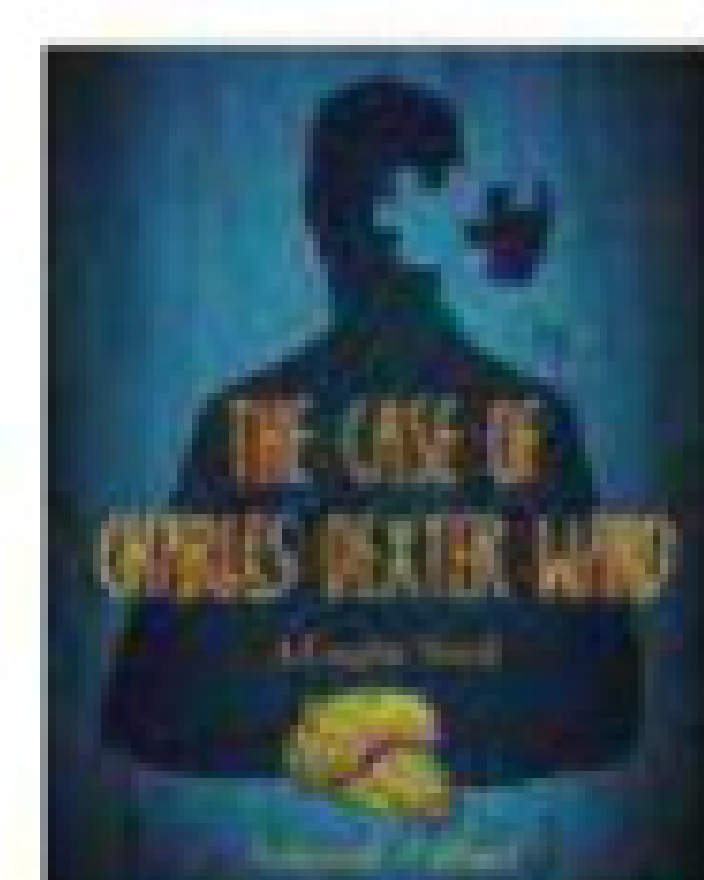


SEE BIZARRE'S FACEBOOK PAGE FOR MORE DETAILS

THE CASE OF CHARLES DEXTER WARD

A slick adaptation of HP Lovecraft's gruesome tale of grave-robbing and magic

HP LOVECRAFT, INJ CULBARD
OUT NOW



ALTHOUGH THE *Case Of Charles Dexter Ward* is one of HP Lovecraft's best-loved and downright scariest

stories, the weird fiction writer's arcane language and insistence on using thousands of florid words to describe the architecture of the hero's hometown is enough to

put off many readers before they get to the murders, necromancy and pit-dwelling monsters. But as with his sublime adaptation of *At The Mountains Of Madness*,

faithful and deeply passionate about its source material, and is sure to turn a new generation on to Lovecraft's cosmic horrors and sumptuous science-fiction.

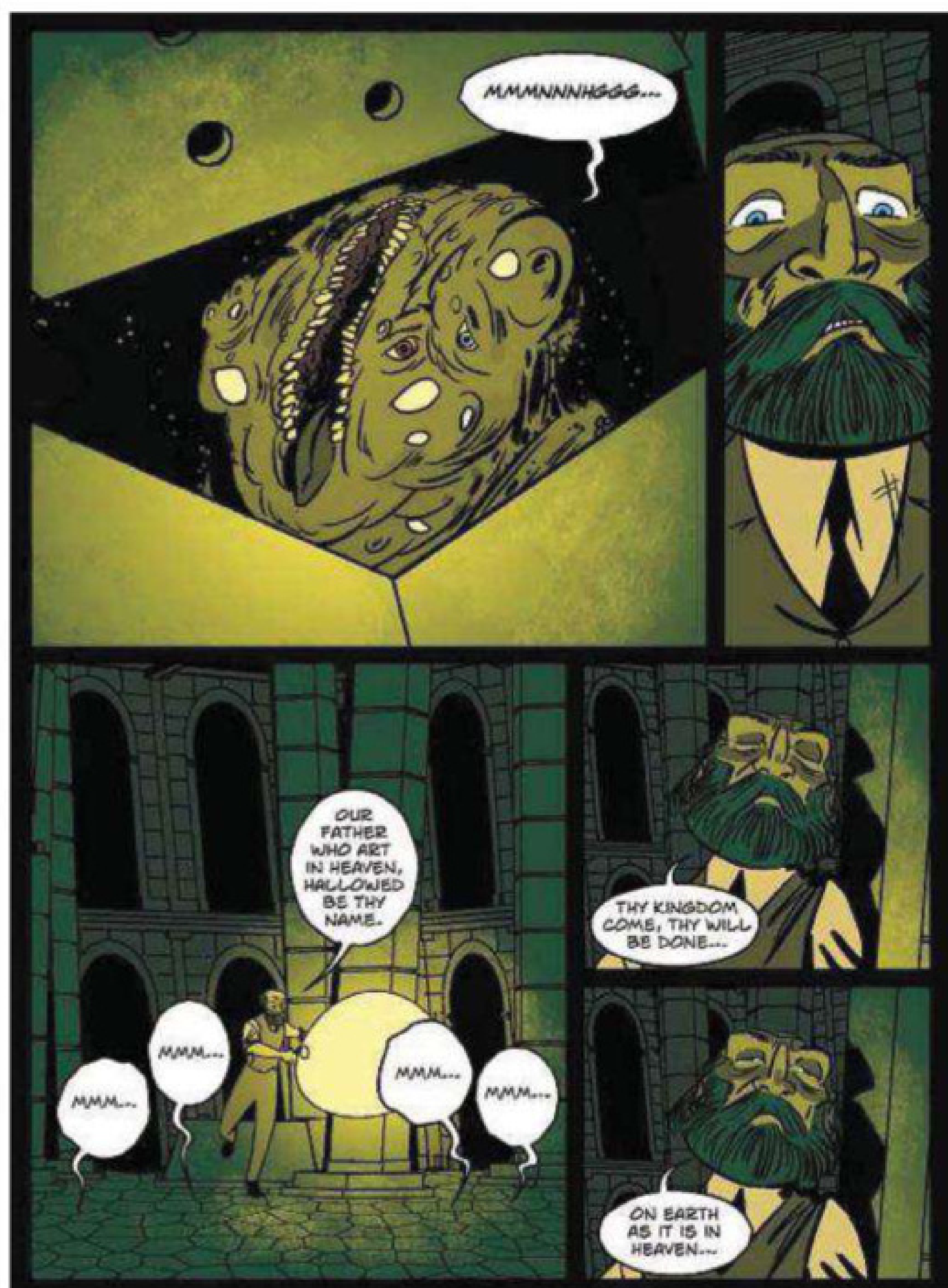
THERE'S NECROMANCY AND PIT-DWELLING MONSTERS...

artist INJ Culbard's take on *The Case Of Charles Dexter Ward* is thrilling,

Written in 1927-28, *The Case Of Charles Dexter Ward* begins with the

escape of a dangerous inmate from a mental hospital, and takes readers on a macabre investigation where the central character, Dr Willett, uncovers a gruesome history of grave-robbing, deception and ancient magic. And while Lovecraft himself dismissed the book as a "cumbrous, creaking bit of self-conscious antiquarianism", Culbard has carefully chipped away at the original text and streamlined the story, in turn making the action sequences more exciting, the moments of tragedy more affecting, and allowing readers to experience the same roller coaster of emotions as Willett does when he unravels the mystery and is confronted by a series of shocking revelations.

Another triumph for Culbard and publisher SelfMadeHero, *The Case Of Charles Dexter Ward* is an essential purchase for horror fans, and a perfect introduction for those still to be seduced by Lovecraft's extraordinary tales.





THE DIGESTIVE TRACTS SEEM NEVER TO HAVE BEEN IN USE.

THE SKIN HAS A COARSE, LOOSELY KNIT TEXTURE WHICH... I CANNOT ACCOUNT FOR.

UNDER ORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES, WE WOULD NEED TO INFORM THE GOVERNOR OF OUR ACTIONS. BUT THESE ARE NO ORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES AND A MORE THAN LEGAL COURSE SEEMS NECESSARY.

JOSEPH CURWEN IS NOT A MAN WHO COULD BE SAFELY WARNED TO LEAVE, AND WE'VE LITTLE DOUBT THAT SHOULD ANY ATTEMPT BE MADE, REPRISALS OF A GHASTLY NATURE WOULD ENSUE.

I AM ALSO QUITE CERTAIN THAT IF HE WERE TO GIVE SUCH COMPLIANCE, HIS REMOVAL WOULD BE NO MORE THAN THE SHIFTING OF AN UNCLEAN BURDEN TO ANOTHER PLACE.

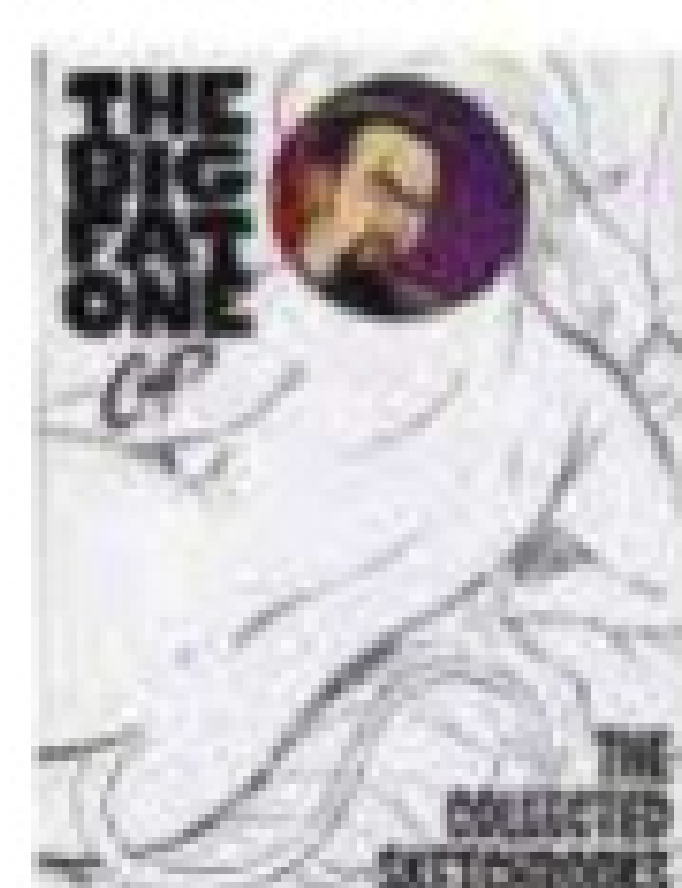
JOSEPH CURWEN MUST BE ELIMINATED AT ANY COST.

**MORE BOOKS
THIS WAY!**

THE BIG FAT ONE

Coop's naughty sketches collected in a satisfyingly large volume

COOP
OUT NOW



BURSTING WITH curvy girls, smoking devils and sweet hotrods, this reissued collection of Chris 'Coop' Cooper

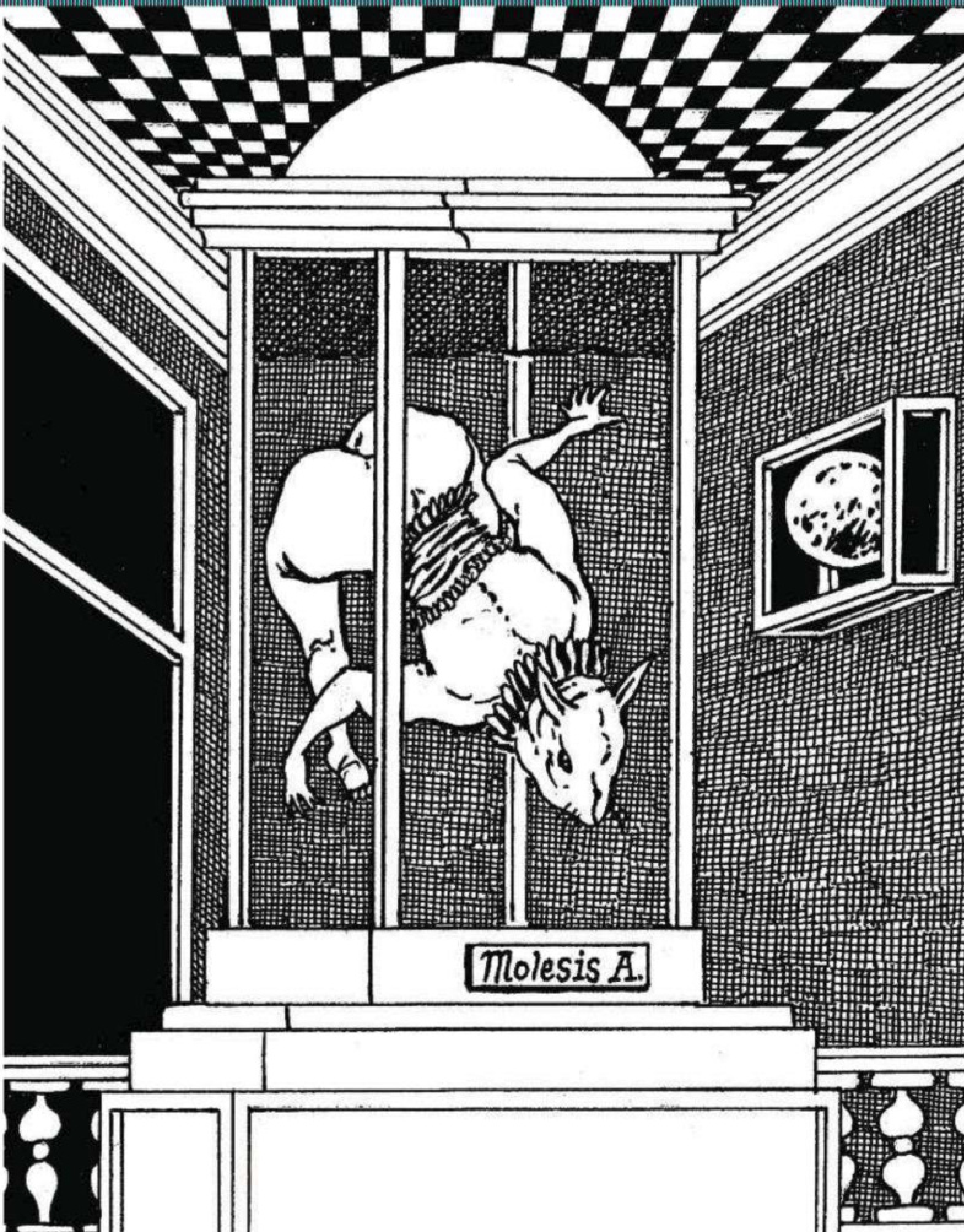
drawings makes us sigh with pleasure.

The Californian lowbrow art star started keeping sketchbooks when he was a teenager, inspired by comics legend Robert Crumb (below, right),

and drew hundreds of women tangling with spunky monsters, posing as wicked witches, and swapping robotic limbs. The images sprawl across tracing paper, overlapping with one another in an orgy of breasts, bums and vaginas.

Coop admits the book was a cash-in, and while the flimsy paper adds an air of authenticity, the pages easily fall out after a few flick-throughs. But handle the book with care, and you're in for the ride of your life!



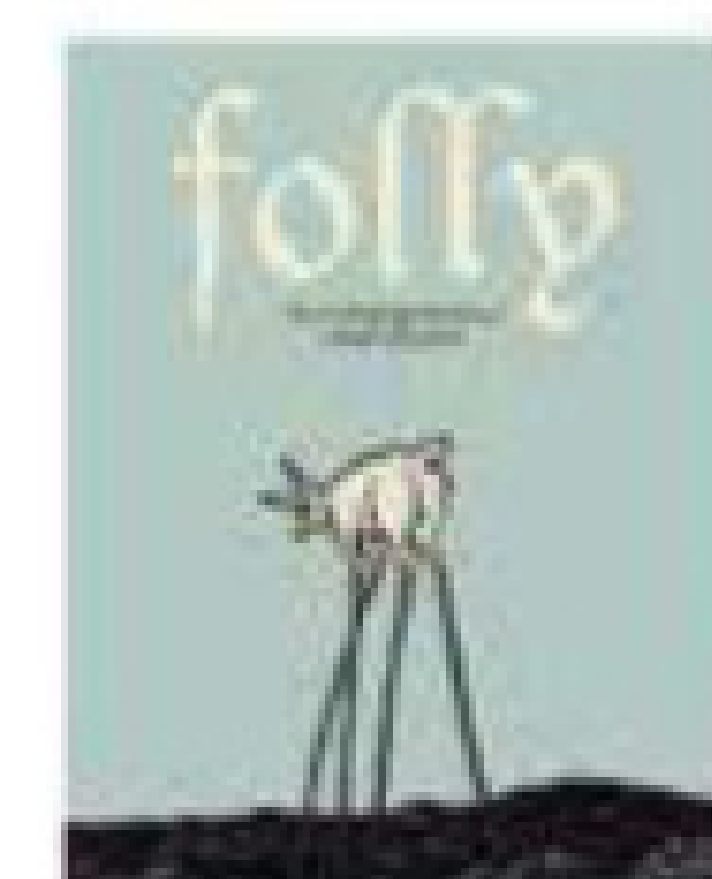


FOLLY

THE CONSEQUENCES OF INDISCRETION

Twisted comix from an artist's subconscious

HANS RICKHEIT
OUT NOW



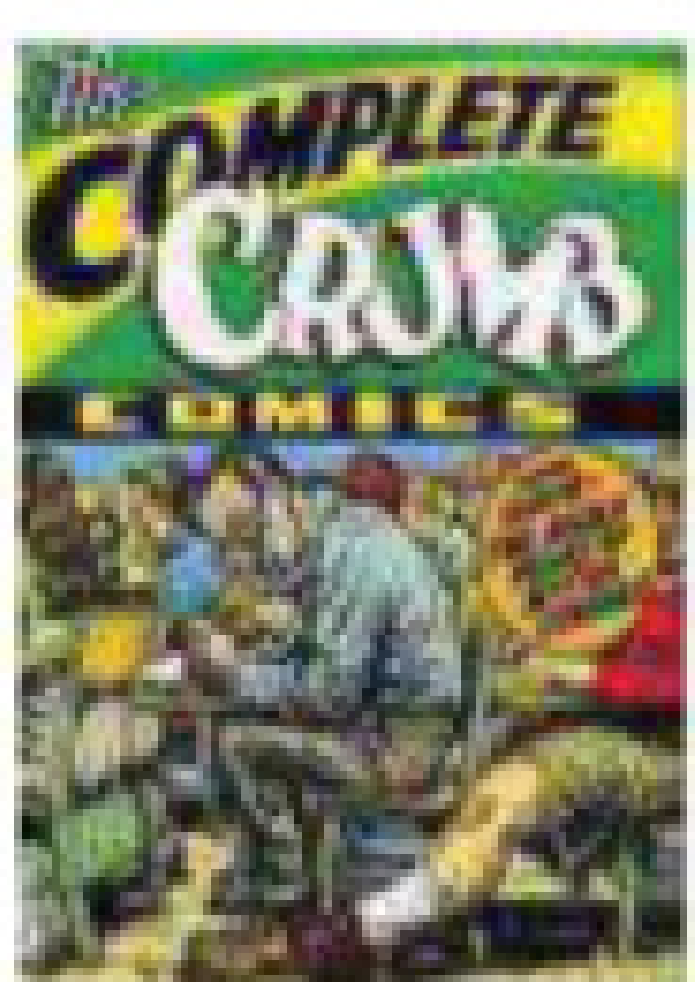
FROM THE AUTHOR of nutty graphic novel *The Squirrel Machine* comes a collection of weird and wonderful self-published comics.

Recurring characters such as a dog-headed man and pair of identical twins take nonsensical journeys through strange portals, encountering grotesque monsters and uncanny devices, as strange sexual undertones penetrate their aimless narratives. Welcome to full-on surrealism.

THE COMPLETE CRUMB COMICS VOL. 1

Amazing re-printed work from a comics genius

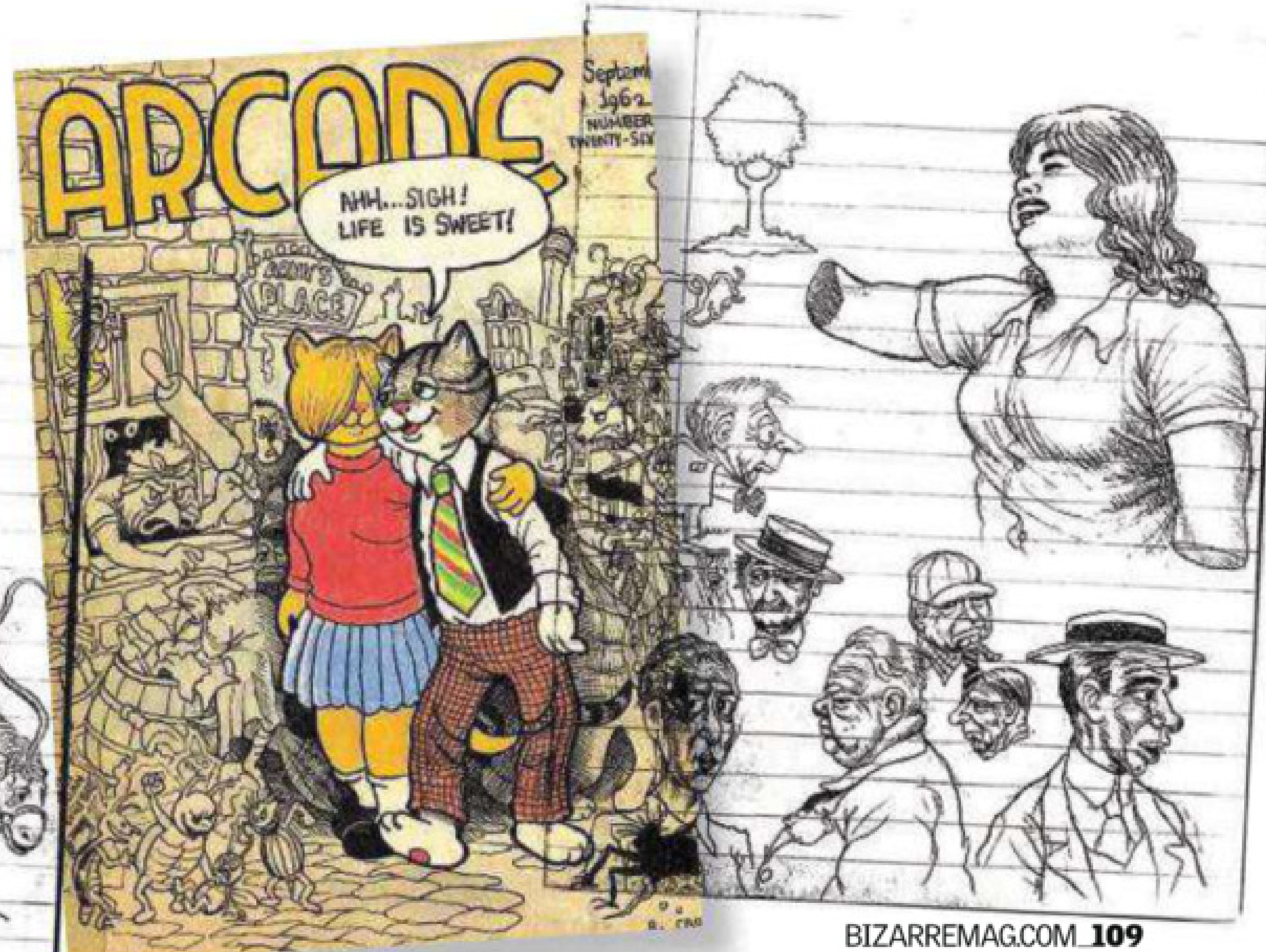
R. CRUMB
OUT NOW



THE FIRST VOLUME

in *The Complete Crumb Comics* series shows Robert Crumb's work from 1958-1962, created during his formative

teenage years. This new edition also contains a previously unpublished 60-page home-made *Arcade* comic. It's an interesting collection of naive drawings and early flashes of genius – a great place to begin your Crumb journey, or discover his roots.



ANARCHY REIGNS

Kinky ultra-violence to get your pulse racing

OUT TBC PS3, XBOX 360

WHILE CLEVER COMBOS, interactive arenas and devastating signature moves are all fine and dandy, even the most ambitious multiplayer brawler can falter if its playable characters don't grab players

fighters with retractable double-chainsaws hidden inside their mechanical arms, brawlers who use buzzing Tesla coils to electrify their opponents, and hulking 'cybrids' that are 99 per cent heavy metal, but driven by an unhinged human brain buried deep inside their

Curious characters aside, *Anarchy Reigns* will offer more than similar button-mashing brawlers such as the classic *Power Stone*, by bringing extra chaos to the action.

There are random events such as tidal waves and exploding bombs, along with waves of bloodthirsty mutants who harass players as they try to lay the smack down on their outlandish opponents, and force sworn enemies to work together momentarily in order to survive.

Deranged eight-player online matches, distinguished characters from the oddball Wii fighter *MadWorld*, and a deliciously dark sense of humour also make *Anarchy Reigns* one of the summer's most promising blockbusters, and the sort of game that keeps *Bizarre* indoors, basking in the sickly glow of our television screens, when everyone else is outside boozing in the sun and getting their tan on.

SHE PIERCES THEIR SKULLS WITH THE SPIKE OF HER FUCK-ME HEELS

by the throat and drag them into the experience. But with the weirdest, wildest and downright kinkiest fighters this side of *SoulCalibur*, Sega's *Anarchy Reigns* is shaping up to be an outrageous blast of spine-snappin', skull-smashin', bone-crackin' ultra-violence.

Featuring a roster of cybernetic characters who've taken body modification to shocking extremes, *Anarchy Reigns* is brought to life by

shiny body. And with a bawdy, S&M-obsessed female fighter who enjoys dominating male opponents by hurling them onto all fours and piercing their skulls with the spike of her fuck-me heels – and a star turn by the titular sexy witch from *Bayonetta*, and her voluptuous ass of steel – *Anarchy Reigns* is sure to be 2012's sexiest game, and a irresistible wankathon for geeks like us who dig dominant digital honeys.



Reigning in hail



**MORE GAMES
THIS WAY!**

GAMES PREVIEW

SBK GENERATOR



DEAD ISLAND

GAME OF THE YEAR EDITION

More zombie madness for your buck

OUT 6 JULY PC, PS3, XBOX 360

ALTHOUGH IT'S A LITTLE ROUGH around the edges, *Dead Island* is still one of *Bizarre's* favourite zombie games, because of the chilling atmosphere it creates, the freedom it gives you to explore a sprawling paradise island, and the fact that you never feel safe. And if you haven't sampled *Dead Island's* delights, this *Game Of The Year* edition is a great place to start.

Featuring all the downloadable content that followed in the wake of the game's original release – including new battle arenas that add extra life to the co-operative mode, and a fresh single-player story mode that offers a different perspective on the story – this is the best way to experience *Dead Island* and experiment with the game's clunky controls before the inevitable sequel lumbers in.

IONS

Realistic racing for experts only

OUT NOW PC, PS3, XBOX 360

WE KNOW MANY OF YOU LOVE motorbikes – but even the most experienced rider will feel like a noob as they try to get to grips with *SBK Generations*. Although there's an option to pussy out and make the controls more 'arcadey', self-respecting crotch-rocketeers won't be able to resist the rock-hard simulation mode, where the

action's terrifyingly realistic, and you need to constantly battle to stay in control of your ride and stick to the racing line. The rising sense of panic when you begin to feel your bike wobbling beneath you in the middle of a crucial race makes *SBK Generations* a racer to cherish, even if it lacks the showboating polish of more established car-racing sims.



KINGDOM HEARTS 3D

DREAM DROP DISTANCE

An okatu nerd's delight!

OUT 20 JULY NINTENDO 3DS

DON'T BE FOOLED BY ITS CUTE

looks – *Dream Drop Distance* promises to be a complex action role-player that'll delight fans of hardcore Japanese RPGs.

Set in fantasy worlds that riff on garish Disney movies such as *Pinocchio*, *The Hunchback Of Notre Dame* and *TRON: Legacy*, the action follows the well-worn path trodden by most role-players from the Far East: explore

a bustling game world, tackle side quests for a stack of bonuses, and get stuck into *hundreds* of strategic battles to evolve your character and boost their powers.

New minigames and the ability to grind like a skateboarder across the imaginative worlds make *Dream Drop Distance* a role-player worth taking a punt on, but a game only the most devoted okatu will have the patience to fully get to grips with.



MUSIC

THE **BEST NEW SOUNDS**
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SERJ

More thoughtful solo madness from System Of A Down's singer. Banana terracotta terracotta pie!

TANKIAN

Q&A

Hello! What's *Harakiri* about?

It's not a concept record, but it's named after the first song I wrote for the record. 'Harakiri' is the Japanese term that means 'cutting of the belly', which signifies ritualistic suicide with "respect". I used the word because in January 2011 a huge amount of birds and fish were dying all over the planet – blackbirds, sardines... half a million crabs washed up in Maryland. For me it was very ominous, and all the scientific reasons for the deaths were pretty bogus – like firecrackers in one case, not enough oxygen in the bay in another – and there was not enough understanding of or research into why this was happening. Why were these species told to leave this place, voluntarily or otherwise? Does this symbolise the degradation of the environment, and what does that mean for us? These are all questions I wanted to answer.

You said *Elect The Dead* was about civilisation being over, and *Imperfect Harmonies* was about how we should be looking at what's left. Where does *Harakiri* pick up?

The record deals with a lot of topical modern issues; everything to do with the current state of being. There are some really heavy political songs, and there are also hybrids of the political

***terracotta / banana terracotta terracotta pie* actually mean?**

I've always had a love of creating relationships between things that don't have one, and then trying to see new links between them – whether it's words or images. The terracotta and the banana technically have nothing to do with each other but, funnily enough, as soon as we recorded this song, I walked into a Thai restaurant and on the menu was banana leaves on terracotta, with salad. I was like, 'Get the fuck out!'

Your backing band, The Flying Cunts Of Chaos, are back! How did they get their name?

I had all these ridiculous names, and we voted on them, and The Flying Cunts Of Chaos was a quorum, because it's ridiculous! It reminds me of The Flying Burrito Brothers (a country rock band). Also, in the US, 'cunt' isn't funny. So if you use it, people go wacky.

What would a Flying Cunt Of Chaos look like?

I don't know. But a few years ago we were on *The Tonight Show With Jay Leno*, and Robin Williams was the special comic guest of the night. I saw him backstage, and he goes, 'I know you – you're that guy from System Of A Down! My kids listen to your music.'

"ONE SONG CONTAINS THE LYRIC, 'NIPPLES, TONGUES, TESTICLE, CHEEKS!'"

and the *comical*, such as 'Figure It Out', which goes after an antihero called the CEO. In terms of where does it span across the spectrum of civilisation and its ending? We're there. It's only been four or five years since *Elect The Dead*, so we're at that end line. It's not one day that the ending occurs – the ending has to do with the fact we're dealing with overpopulation, and a middle-class lifestyle around the world that's not sustainable.

What else can we expect in terms of humour and weirdness?

'Reality TV' gets into Dada-esque territory – absurdism – but it's also a searing literary indictment of the whole TV culture that we have. Its middle eight bridge contains the words, 'Nipples, tongues, testicle, cheeks'. I don't even know what to say about that! The humour keeps it in balance. I've had it in all the records, and it's just the way that I write.

There was comedy in your last System Of A Down single, 'Vicinity Of Obscenity'. What does the lyric 'Banana banana banana

So why are you here?' I explained that I had a solo project, and he goes, 'Cool, good for you bro. What's your band called?' And I smile and say, 'They're called 'The FCC', and it stands for 'The Flying Cunts Of Chaos.' And that was it. He was running around the hallways flapping his hands around his face like a vagina, trying to make Jay say 'cunt!'

We heard you're also doing a project called Fuktronic with Jimmy Urine from Mindless Self Indulgence! How did this happen?

We were having dinner and talking about our affinity for British gangster films. I'm like, 'Hey dude, you've got a shitload of electronic tracks and so have I – why don't we get some friends to act on the tracks and make it like a Guy Ritchie film, where a gangster has just got out of prison, and each song will be a scene?' We've got a couple of animators interested in doing a graphic novel, and a company looking at it for a possible musical. We called it 'Fuktronic' because it's electronic... and what the fuck?!

See more at Serjtankian.com

MORE NEW SHIT!

Other Bizarre must-hears

THE TIGER LILLIES HAMLET AND RIME OF THE ANCIENT MARINER

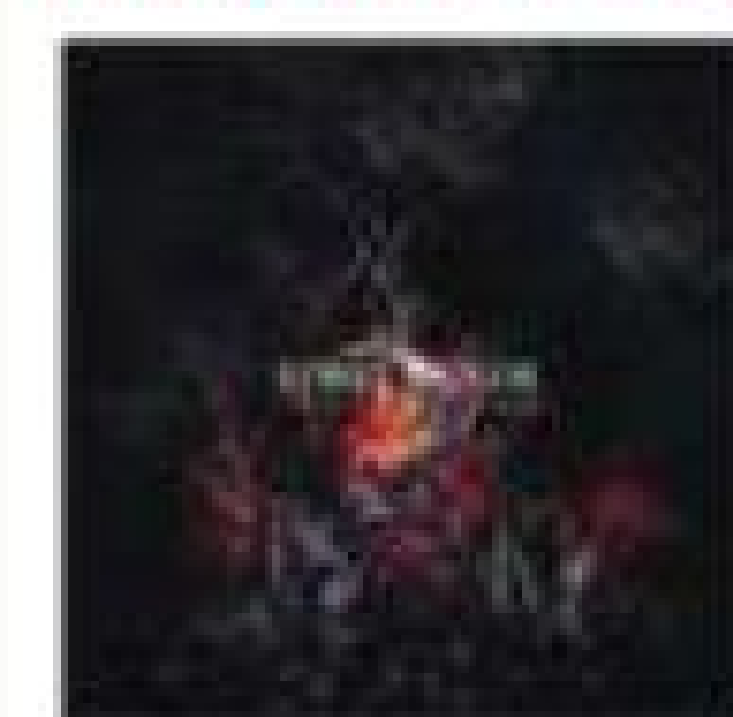
OUT NOW



Typical. You wait months for a new Tiger Lillies album, and then two come along at once! Like with their adaptation of *Der Struwwelpeter* (the sublime *Shockheaded Peter*) and their music for

the *At The Mountains Of Madness* stage show based on HP Lovecraft's novella, The Tiger Lillies are often at their best when putting their own dark spin on famous stories. True to form, the band's perverse take on Shakespeare's tragedy and Samuel Taylor Coleridge's epic poem are deliciously twisted, with singer Martyn Jacques squawking about fucking cabin boys, the Danish prince's descent into madness, and maliciously infecting prostitutes with STDs. And while these albums are based on two of the band's most recent stage shows, the music is strong enough to stand alone, and features some of The Tiger Lillies' best songs since 2010's *Here I Am Human!*

EPEL DUATH ON DEATH AND COSMOS



OUT NOW

Returning after a three-year hiatus with a heavy-hitting concept EP about loss,

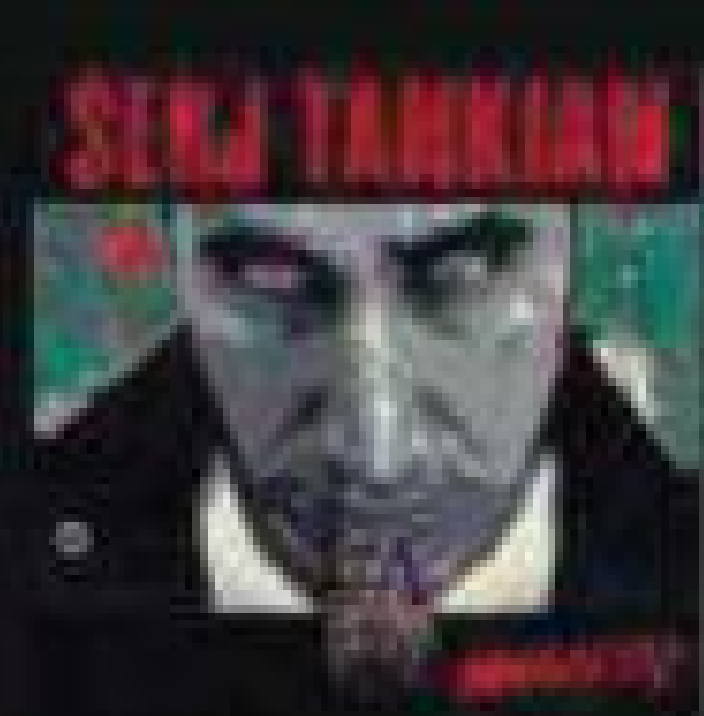
Epel Duath build on their eccentric math-rock sound. Aggressive black metal vocals come from new member Karyn Crisis, and everything feels darker, more chaotic, and more energetic... especially compared to the bluesy approach of previous album *Through My Dog's Eyes*.

TURBONEGRO SEXUAL HARASSMENT



Hello, Turbonegro! For their ninth album, the Norwegian glam-rockers have replaced singer Hank Von Helvete with Tony Sylvester from Dukes Of Nothing, and while his vocals don't sit quite as well with their campy songs, we can't argue with the party silliness of 'Shake Your Shit Machine' or 'You Give Me Worms'. They can touch us up any day...

HARAKIRI



OUT 9 JULY

On his third solo album, System Of A Down frontman Serj Tankian

continues to make politics palatable. Abandoning the orchestral arrangements of *Imperfect Harmonies* for the rockier approach of debut *Elect The Dead*, he unleashes metal bounce on 'Figure It Out' and drama on 'Forget Me Knot', but leaves room for electronic contemplation on 'Deafening Silence'. However he expresses his voice, it comes through clearly. Eleanor Goodman

Hector MacInnes, Leighton Jones, David MacLeod and Magnus Graham go pond-dipping



THE DEAD MAN'S WALTZ

Haunting melodies from beyond the grave...

Q&A HECTOR MACINNES AND LEIGHTON JONES

Who are The Dead Man's Waltz?

Leighton (accordion, piano, vocals) The Dead Man's Waltz was spawned in a blood-soaked musical we wrote called *Scary Love*, a Tim Burton-esque lament to vaudevillian theatre. It was the story of a lovesick ghost, trapped in a Victorian manor, besotted with the lonely widow he's haunting. He makes a pact with the devil: to win her love he must strike down three souls – and

Where does your name come from?

Hector (percussion, guitar, vocals) The Dead Man's Waltz is also the name of a real waltz; a piano melody to which the dead man in that theatre piece waltzed on a giant chessboard with his beloved and four golden reindeer. It was quite disturbing – there's something menacing about deer – so the scene gave its name to the zombie folk band that played the

run between American and European folk traditions and the music of the Highlands of Scotland.

How does living in the Isle Of Skye influence your music?

Leighton Anyone familiar with the geography of the Highlands and Islands will recognise that haunting sense of fatalism, which pervades the air on a dark and stormy day on Skye or The Outer Hebrides... Standing on an exposed outcrop on top of the Black Cuillin or being pounded by the wind and waves at Neist Point, there's a real sense of space and timelessness. That's the mood we're trying to communicate in the music and film of The Dead Man's Waltz.

Can you describe some of the dark tracks on your self-titled debut?

Hector There's an Alasdair Gray (Scottish writer and artist) collection called *Ten Tales Tall And True*, which would have made a good title for our

album. Some of the songs are true stories, some are modern-day myths, and others are adapted from old folk tales. 'The Butcher's Wife' and 'Cry On Me' are straightforward tales of revenge murders – in one case the murder of an adulteress and her lover, and in the other a spree of violence brought on by unrequited love.

Hector, is it true your brother is dance star Mylo? Would you ever do remixes of your songs? Is there a dance scene in the Isle Of Skye?

Hector Yes, it's true. You'd be amazed at the dance scene on Skye, actually – we also boast Williams – a DJ and producer for Love Triangle records – and an incredible Celtic electronica act called Niteworks. Remixing our material would be quite difficult. Never say never, though!

Eleanor Goodman

Hear the band's debut album and see their new video single, Germanic sea shanty 'Emmeline', at TheDeadMansWaltz.com

"WE WROTE A MUSICAL ABOUT A LOVESICK GHOST"

for them, death brings with it a place in the The Dead Man's Waltz. Skip forward to 2009, and Dr William Johnstone discovers where they were buried, and revives their bodies in an abandoned ice-cream van depot in Glasgow. That was where he first presented their work to the public.

tune. It was a really complicated melting pot of ideas that gave rise to this band, as you can probably gather! **You call yourself 'folk noir'.** **What does that mean?** **Leighton** The term comes from film noir - quite literally 'dark folk'. We're exploring the parallels that

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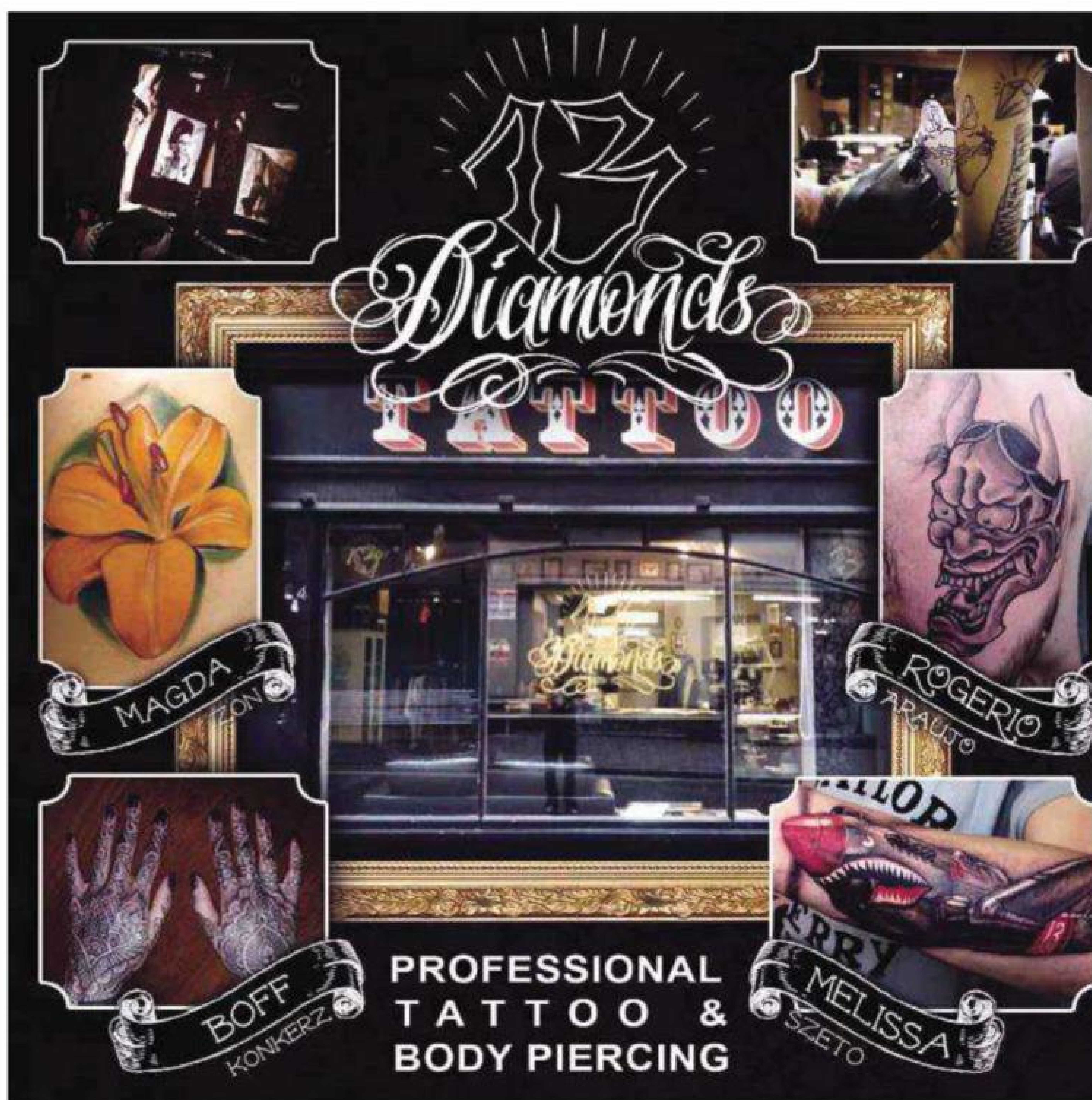
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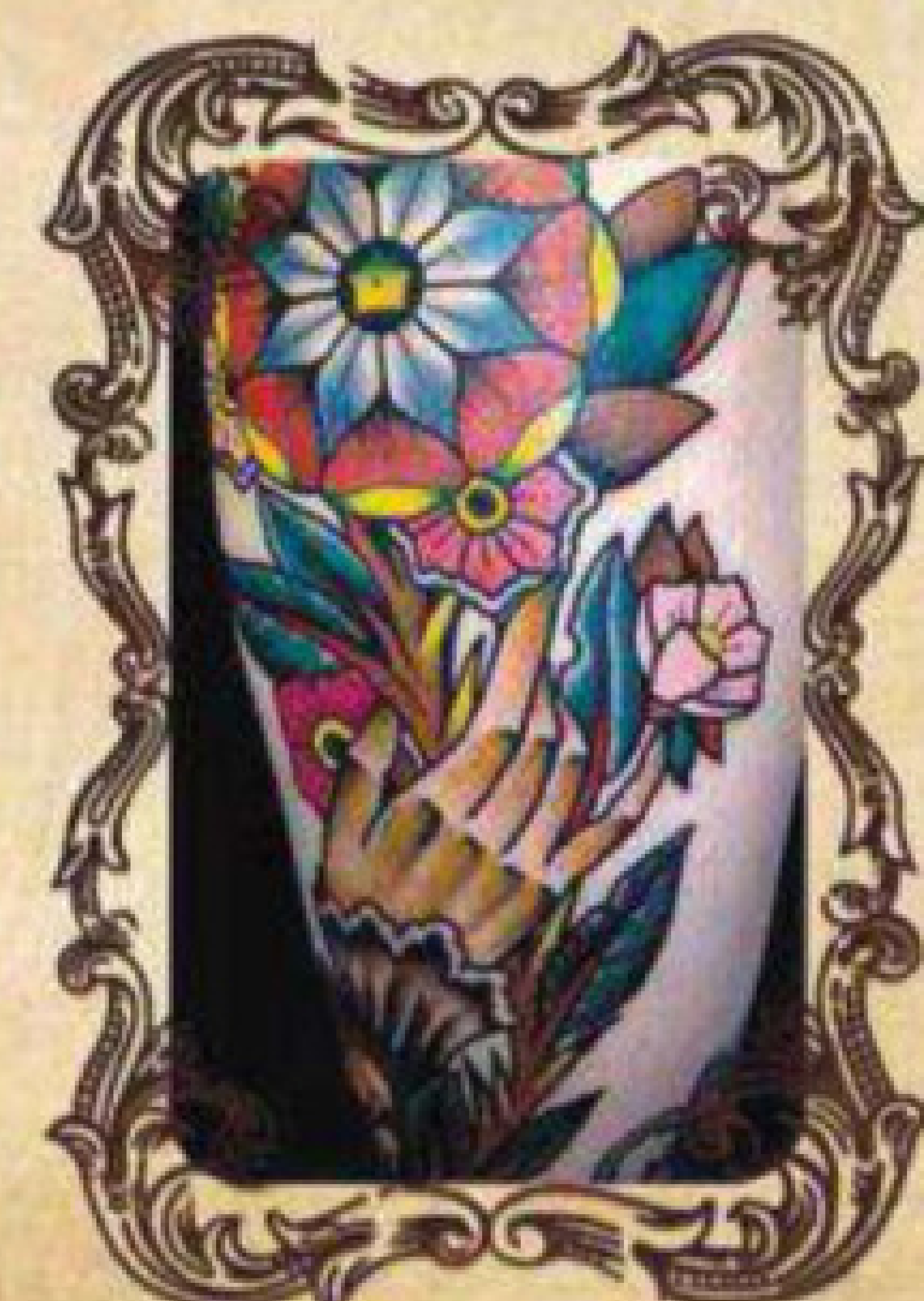
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Jonathan Peeler



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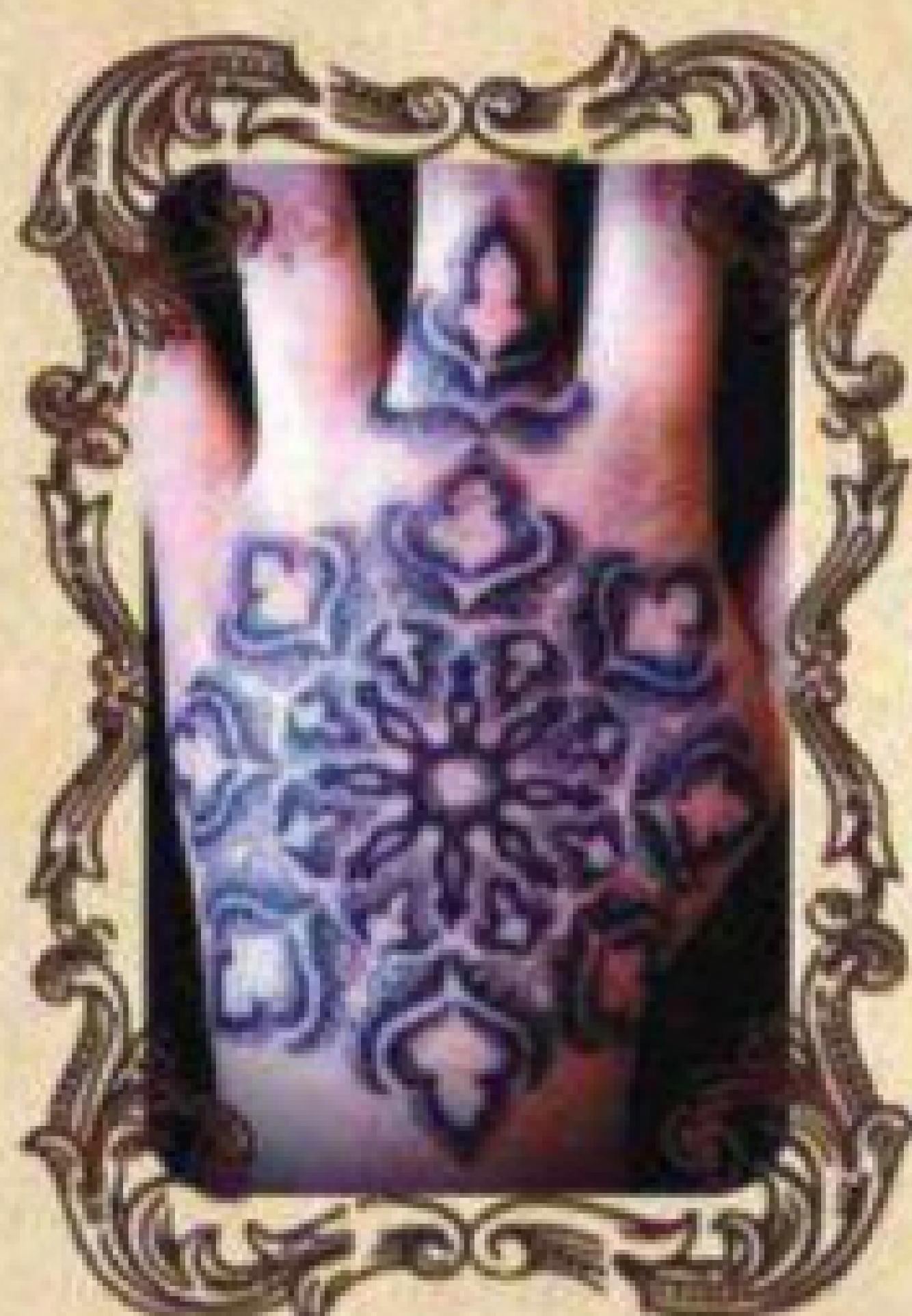


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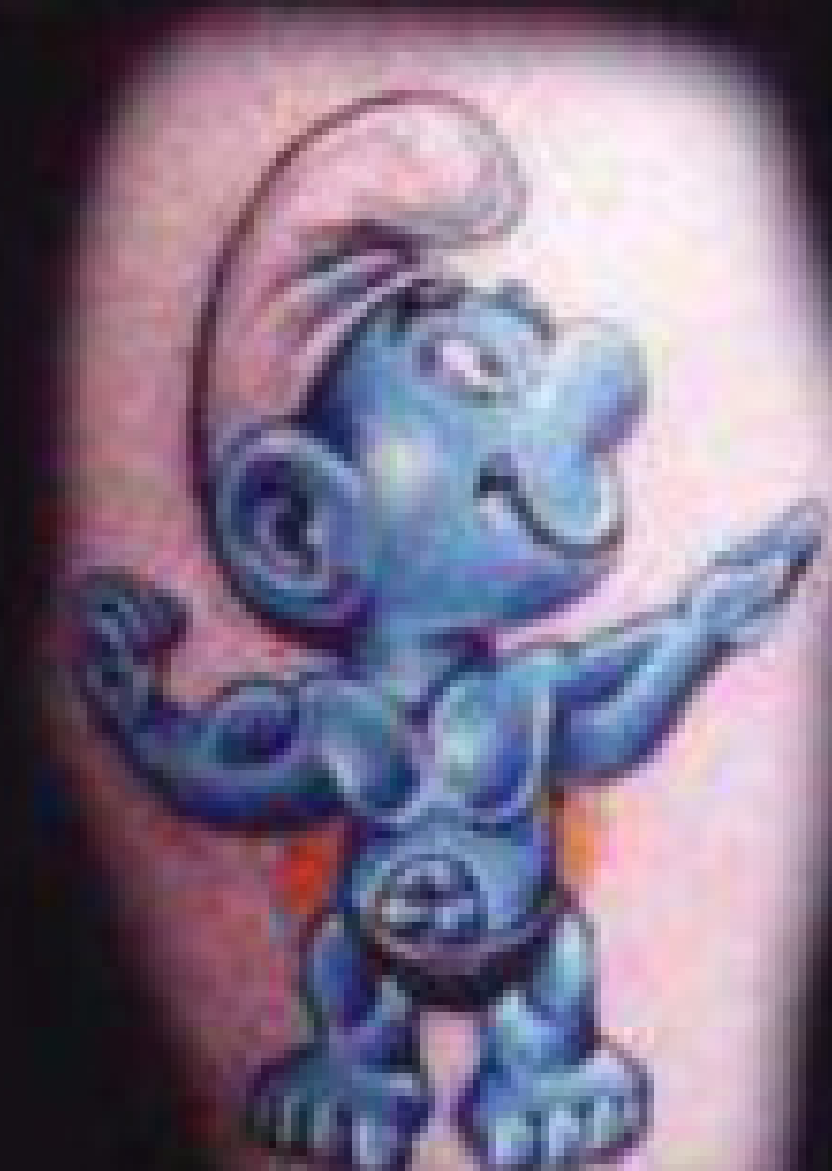
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